



Prime Minister Suchinda Kraprayoon, flanked by reporters and cameramen, leaving the government house in Bangkok on Wednesday.

## Thai King Steps In, Urging End to Crisis

### In Talks, 2 Sides Agree To Reform Constitution

By Philip Shenon  
*New York Times Service*

**BANGKOK** — The King of Thailand, with the nation's prime minister at his feet, obtained an agreement Wednesday that could end clashes between soldiers and democracy demonstrators that have left scores of people dead this week on streets only a few hundred feet from the king's palace.

In a nationwide television broadcast shown shortly after midnight Wednesday, King Bhumibol Adulyadej could be seen meeting in a guided reception room at the palace with Thailand's beleaguered prime minister, General Suchinda Kraprayoon, and with the leader of the nation's democracy movement, Chamlong Srimuang. The king urged the two men to "prevent fighting in our own house."

"I would like both of you to talk face-to-face, not to confront each other," the king said. "Try to solve this problem."

General Suchinda and Mr. Chamlong — who as Thailand's monarch, approached the monarch on their knees and then sat before him on the carpeted floor — listened intently to the words of King Bhumibol, a much-beloved constitutional monarch who is the nation's unifying symbol. The king has vast, if only rarely exercised, influence with Thais from all walks of life.

The king's intervention in the crisis, which many Thais say is their best hope for ending violence that has this week made several neighborhoods of Bangkok resemble charred war zones, produced almost immediate results.

Appearing together in a separate television broadcast early Thursday morning, General Suchinda and Mr. Chamlong announced an agreement, reached at the king's request, to negotiate an end to the clashes, in which at least 40 people died.

## A Setback To ASEAN Stability

By Michael Richardson  
*International Herald Tribune*

**SINGAPORE** — As some Western countries sharpen their protest against military repression in Bangkok, Thailand's partners in the Association of South East Asian Nations find themselves in an increasingly difficult dilemma. Although they are alarmed that the violence in the Thai capital may harm ASEAN's reputation as a stable haven for investment, tourism and economic growth, member states are reluctant to intervene for fear of splitting the group and prolonging the conflict in Thailand.

The Thai military crackdown also threatens to slow ASEAN's plans to create a regional free trade area within 15 years and complicates moves to draw Vietnam into a closer relationship.

In the official comment by any of Thailand's partners, Ahmad Kamil Jaafar, secretary-general of the Malaysian Foreign Ministry, said that Kuala Lumpur was "very concerned because what hurts Thailand will also hurt Malaysia and others in ASEAN."

The press in ASEAN countries has been giving the trouble in Thailand daily front-page play, using reports from Western news agencies and special correspondents. The papers are also publishing

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## Moldova Accuses Russian Army of Aiding Rebels

By Michael Dobbs  
*Washington Post Service*

**MOSCOW** — As violence escalated around the southern fringes of the former Soviet Union, Moldova accused the newly established Russian Army of aggression and appealed for international help.

The Moldovan president, Mircea Snegur, said that Russian soldiers stationed in Moldova had broken out of their barracks and deployed tanks, artillery and armored vehicles in support of Slavs fighting for independence from Moldova.

In a telegram to President Boris N. Yeltsin of Russia, Mr. Snegur warned that the fighting could grow into an "international and interstate armed conflict with the direct and decisive participation of the Russian 14th Army."

Russian military spokesmen denied Moldovan assertions

that the 14th Army, which was transferred to Russian jurisdiction last month, had abandoned its neutral stance in the conflict, which has claimed more than 100 lives since March. But they acknowledged that soldiers had been ordered out of their barracks to "defend" Russian-speaking areas and that some heavy weapons had fallen into the hands of secessionists who have established a "Dniester republic."

The surge in fighting in Moldova, which has an ethnic Romanian majority, coincided with further clashes between Christian Armenia and Muslim Azerbaijan in the southern Caucasus region. In the third Caucasus republic, Georgia, at least 35 people were reported to have been killed when unidentified men fired on a bus containing refugees from the breakaway region of South Ossetia.

The latest developments in Moldova reflected the strains

in the Russian Army since the collapse of the Soviet Union in December. Hundreds of thousands of Russian troops are stationed outside the boundaries of Russia proper in the Baltic states, Central Asia and Moldova. Mr. Yeltsin has promised to bring the troops back home to Russia eventually. But there is a danger that they could be dragged into disputes on the side of the local Russian-speaking minorities in these areas.

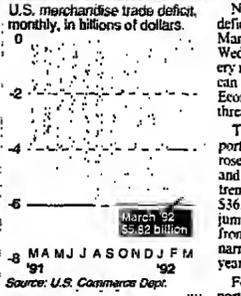
The commander of the 14th Army, Major General Yuri Netkachev, said in a television interview that he had ordered armored units to defend the towns of Dobossary, Koshmitsa and Dubovskoye, which Moldovan militiamen had subjected to shelling.

General Netkachev told the Moscow-based newspaper

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## Rising Imports Expand U.S. Trade Gap

Tracking U.S. Trade



**NEW YORK** — The U.S. trade deficit suddenly widened sharply in March, the government reported Wednesday, as the economic recovery restored the appetite of American consumers for foreign goods. Economists disagreed about how threatening the trend was.

The Commerce Department reported Wednesday that imports rose 4.5 percent, to \$42.79 billion, and exports reversed their rising trend, falling by 1.8 percent, to \$36.98 billion. The trade gap jumped to \$5.82 billion last month from \$3.9 billion in February, its narrowest level in almost nine years.

Foreign trade, especially exports, has been one of the few

bright spots in the sluggish revival of the U.S. economy. This was the second piece of bad news in as many days after the report on Tuesday of a slowdown in house building, which traditionally leads U.S. economic recoveries.

The dollar was initially shaken by the trade data, but it firmed later in the day because the Federal Reserve Board failed to meet market expectations and reduce interest rates. Stocks were mixed and bonds fell, also reacting to the Fed's inaction.

Economists said the export decline and import rise could be partly accounted for by volatile factors. David Munro of High Frequency Economics contended that exports were still growing at an underlying rate of 7 percent and that "getting out one less airliner and a few less

shipsloads of grain can account for what happened in March."

Michael Niemira of Mitsubishi Bank said imports from Asia could have been skewed by a West Coast dock strike earlier this year that bunched arrivals into March.

But others spotted a potential problem in the growth of imports. Said David H. Resler of Nomura Securities Co.: "As the U.S. economy shifts toward growth ahead of the rest of the world, it will have a bias toward imports."

The increase in imports also provides the missing piece of a puzzle that showed inventories rising and production down earlier this year but retail sales rising. Where did the additional goods come from?

"They came from abroad," said

## Out of Spotlight, Clinton Finds His Voice

By David Maraniss  
*Washington Post Service*

**LOS ANGELES** — There stood Bill Clinton on the stage of the Palace Theater, jaw set, eyes glistening, as he reached the conclusion of a speech in which he promised that as president he would lift the federal ban on homosexuals in the military and launch a Manhattan Project-style effort to combat the AIDS epidemic. He lowered his voice and spoke slowly, looking out at a crowd that national candidates once shunned or ignored.

"This country is being killed," Mr. Clinton said, his voice choking on the word killed, "by people who try to break us down, tear us down and make us little when we have to

be big. This is a big time — let us rise to the challenge.

The moment was historic in its own right: the largest fund-raiser ever held openly by the gay community for a presidential candidate.

NEWS ANALYSIS

date. It raised an estimated \$100,000. But for Mr. Clinton, governor of Arkansas and the beneficiary of the event here Monday night, it could turn out to be a turning point in his campaign, a point where it seemed that his political and emotional sides converged to give his voice a deeper sense of conviction.

Over the past few days, at a time

when most of the country is paying little attention to him, Mr. Clinton seems to have found his voice. Whether this is a new Clinton or the real Clinton might be debatable, but most people who have seen and listened to him this week have noticed that something is different.

"He's starting to make the emotional case in a way that no Democrat has in years," said Luke Breit, a political consultant in San Diego. "His heart is coming out now. There's a power to it that we never felt with Dukakis. Dukakis tried to be competent. Democrats can't be Democrats without that deep emotional content."

If there is a positive side to the

relative lack of attention Mr. Clinton has received recently, it is that the candidate and his advisers have had the time to refine the style and substance of his message, which at various points over the past five months suffered from being too diffuse, last-laden, complicated or dispassionate. While Mr. Clinton could show his mastery of an issue or reveal his innermost feelings, these two sides of him until recently were rarely evident in one place at one time.

Part of Mr. Clinton's new-found rhetorical power can be attributed to a strategy meeting last Friday in Little Rock, Arkansas, where the



A Serbian family fleeing the fighting on Wednesday sheltering in a tractor at Bijeljina, Bosnia.

## Serbs Take Tough Line On Hostages

By Chuck Sudetic  
*New York Times Service*

**BELGRADE** — Serbian leaders in Bosnia-Herzegovina said Wednesday that their guerrillas would not release a convoy of about 5,000 women, children and old people held hostage in a Sarajevo suburb until the besieged republic's government ended blockades of several Yugoslav Army barracks and met other conditions.

Serbian gunmen forced the column, which aid officials said contained about 1,000 cars, 20 buses and 10 vans to halt last night in the Sarajevo suburb of Ilica as

they were trying to flee the Bosnian capital, which Serbian forces have besieged and bombarded for more than a month in a campaign to partition it.

As the hostage impasse dragged on, the United States said it was revoking the landing rights of the Yugoslav airlines JAT to protest Serbian actions in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Associated Press reported from Washington.

[The State Department spokesman, Margaret D. Tutwiler, said three weekly JAT flights would be affected by the decision. The flights have been operating between Belgrade, New York and Chicago.]

[She said Washington was considering further measures "in response to continued Serbian aggression."] Officials of the Children's Embassy, a local relief group that organized the refugee convoy, said they had obtained written guarantees of safe passage for the women, children and elderly people from officials of the self-styled Serb Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, whose guerrilla forces together with the all-Serb Yugoslav Army have overrun more than 60 percent of the republic and used terror tactics to drive non-Serbs from their homes.

On Wednesday afternoon, two armored vehicles belonging to the United Nations peacekeeping force in Sarajevo were turned back by Serb gunmen at a roadblock when they tried to enter Ilica, and they came under artillery fire on their return to their headquarters, Sarajevo radio and UN officials said.

Young men and parents of the children held hostage threatened Wednesday to retaliate against innocent Serbs in Sarajevo if the abduction is not ended quickly, government officials said.

Serbs in Sarajevo in large part

### Kiosk

#### Crimea Retreats on Independence

SIMFEROPOL, Ukraine (Reuters) — The parliament in the Crimea backed away from confrontation with Ukraine on Wednesday by repealing an act of independence passed last month.

A total of 98 of 157 deputies in the chamber voted to repeal the act and two resolutions implementing it. The vote satisfied Ukraine's demand for the act to be rescinded within a week. It also sought to defuse tension between Ukraine and Russia over the future of the mainly Russian-speaking peninsula. But in Moscow, Russia's parliament ignored warnings by a visiting top-level Ukrainian delegation and pressed ahead with plans for a debate on the region, headed by Russia to Ukraine as a "gift" in 1954.

#### General News

Dan Quayle took baby steps in the wrong direction, panning an unwed TV mom. Page 3.

Barcelona won the European Cup final in overtime, beating Sampdoria 1-0. Page 18.

#### Sports

Barcelona won the European Cup final in overtime, beating Sampdoria 1-0. Page 18.

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## Nostalgic Pilgrims, Yanks Seek British War Babies

By William E. Schmidt  
*New York Times Service*

**DEOPHAM GREEN, England** — They were teenagers, mostly, when they landed in Britain, the first wave of American soldiers and pilots on their way to the war in Europe. Now, on the 50th anniversary of that friendly invasion, thousands of World War II veterans are coming back.

For many, like the mer of the United States Army Air Force's 452d Bomb Group, it is an occasion for sweet reunion. More than a week in London and Liverpool recently, to place a stone marker where runways long ago crossed the open farm fields, launching B-17's toward targets across the English Channel.

But for others, like Walter Comer and Richard Byrd, army veterans who were among the first American troops to arrive in England, their journey back has involved a more personal, and more difficult, search: They spent more than a week in London and Liverpool recently, trying to track down their children, whom they have never met or even seen.

"Her mother sent me her baby picture, but that's all I really knew of her," said Mr. Comer, 76, a retired carpenter from Philadelphia. He said he had lost touch with the child's mother in the war, after he was shipped out of England.

He went back to the States in 1945, married another woman and had a family. Now a widower, he says he wants to come to terms with this part of his past.

"Maybe they are both dead by now, maybe they wouldn't want to see me even if I could find them," Mr. Comer said. "But I wouldn't feel right if I didn't try, because I keep thinking, maybe they could use my help."

Pamela Winfield, who runs Transatlantic Children's Enterprise, an organization to help put British children in touch with their American fathers, says hundreds, perhaps thousands, of children were fathered out of wedlock by American servicemen in the war. They are now men and women approaching 50, many with children and grandchildren.

She said it was rare to have the veterans turn up, as Mr. Comer and Mr. Byrd did last week at her house, looking for help in tracking down children.

"But so much time has passed, and all these men are getting older," Mrs. Winfield said. "Perhaps they think it's now or never."

By 1944, there were about 1.5 million American military personnel stationed in Britain, from crews flying bombing missions over occupied Europe and masses in military hospitals, to infantry troops training for the invasion of Normandy.

Among Britons, there was always some ambivalence about the Americans, who were observed for their help in fighting the Nazis but were also resented for their sometimes overly exuberant presence. As a popular wartime phrase went, "They're overpaid, oversexed and over here."

In Norfolk — like much of East Anglia, the main staging area for Allied air raids — there are especially strong ties between the small towns where wartime airfields were situated, and the American pilots and crew members who once served on them.

At the brief outdoor ceremony in Deopham Green, a choir of schoolchildren sang the wartime ballad "Comin' In on a Wing and a Prayer," and vicars remembered the

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# Bush Environment Policy: Opening Up the Land

By Keith Schneider

WASHINGTON — As the recession hangs on and the election nears, the Bush administration has followed a pattern of relaxing environmental laws and regulations to open up federal land and the nation's natural resources to development, top administration officials say.

The pattern emerged last summer when the White House proposed the elimination of restrictions on building and development on half the nation's wetlands.

Since then, the administration has fostered a flurry of new proposals to make more coal, timber, oil, water and land available to industry and agriculture.

Administration officials say the effort to open natural resources has been aided by President George Bush's four-month-old regulatory moratorium in which existing environmental rules are under review and others are being rewritten to reduce their cost to business.

Together, the two policies represent the strongest effort to reduce environmental restrictions since the early days of the Reagan administration, White House officials and critics of the president say.

In public statements and private conversations, Bush administration officials say the pattern reflects the philosophical effect of the President's Council on Competitiveness,

which is headed by Vice President Dan Quayle, and concern over carrying Western states in the election this fall.

Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan Jr. said anti-environmental sentiment among some Western voters had played a role. In the Reagan years, these sentiments fueled a movement called the "sagebrush rebellion," which put pressure on the Interior Department to open more federal land for mining, grazing and logging.

Mr. Lujan has alerted the White House that members of the old rebellion have joined with private landowners, the timber industry, coal companies and others who rely on natural resources to form a new coalition that calls itself the "wise use" movement.

Mr. Lujan says the administration should pay attention to the agenda of those special interests to improve its standing with its natural conservative constituency and should not worry so much about the sentiment of environmentalists who, he believes, will not support Mr. Bush under any circumstances.

"I have never seen a positive reaction from environmental groups no matter what we do," Mr. Lujan said.

Mr. Lujan, who served from 1969 to 1989 as a congressman from New Mexico, said he was bringing "the plight of the Western constituency to the White House," and added: "People who live in the West look at the land in a different way than people east of the Mississippi River."

"Land is our heritage to use and not just lock up and put away, where only backpackers can go. I have been telling the White House staff that our constituency, the conservative Republican constituency, is not pleased at being ignored."

Several officials agree with Mr. Lujan that the White House was driven by fears that the traditional Republican Party support in the eight Rocky Mountain states, with a total of 40 electoral votes, was eroding.

The White House is also following a plan devised by Senator Slade Gorton, Republican of Washington, to recapture Oregon and Washington, the only two Western states Mr. Bush lost in the 1988 election.

Thus, the president's strategy is meant to shore up support among the timber, mining, coal and agricultural groups that anchor the "wise use" movement.

Leaders of the movement are pressing for a loosening of policies that they see as brakes on the economy. They also want to protect jobs and families by providing resources that some of the nation's largest industries need to operate.

Last week, in the clearest sign yet that Mr. Bush is taking account of industrial interests in weighing environmental protections, a cabinet-level committee voted to exempt the government from the Endangered Species Act and allow the culling of 1,700 acres of forest in Oregon that provide habitat for the threatened northern spotted owl.

# Dan Quayle's Baby Missteps

## Unlike Fitzwater, He Pans Unwed TV Mom

WASHINGTON — The White House press secretary, Martin Fitzwater, praised the television series "Murphy Brown" on Wednesday for backing unwed motherhood over abortion, veering away from Vice President Dan Quayle's condemnation of the show's eponymous starring character.

"First of all," Mr. Fitzwater said, "Murphy Brown" is an excellent show.

He added that the TV character had demonstrated "pro-life values" by having had the baby.

Mr. Quayle ignited a flap in San Francisco on Tuesday by attacking the character, a fictionalized television correspondent portrayed by Candice Bergen, for having had a child out of wedlock.

"Bearing babies irresponsibly is simply wrong," said Mr. Quayle, 45, who is married and has three children. "Failing to support children one has fathered is wrong."

Miss Bergen's character gave birth Monday night in the season finale of the CBS program. The vice president has been the butt of humor in the show.

Mr. Quayle voiced his review in a speech to the Commonwealth Club of California, in which he attributed the riots in Los Angeles largely to poverty and the breakdown of the American family.

"It doesn't help matters when prime-time TV has Murphy Brown — a character who supposedly epitomizes today's intelligent, highly paid professional woman — mocking the importance of fathers by bearing a child alone, and calling it just another lifestyle choice," he said.

The New York Daily News, in banning Mr. Quayle's assault, ran the headline "Quayle to Murphy Brown: You Tramp!"

In Los Angeles, Diane English, the "Murphy Brown" producer, wrote a reply to Mr. Quayle attacking the administration's anti-abortion position.

"If the vice president thinks it's disgraceful for an unmarried woman to bear children, and if he believes that a woman cannot adequately raise a child without a father, then he'd better make sure abortion remains safe and legal," she said.

President George Bush, during a picture-taking session in the Oval Office with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada, was asked whether he sided with Mr. Quayle or with Mr. Fitzwater.

"I'll get briefed up on that," he quipped, promising that he would have more to say soon. "Where's Martin on this?"

"I'll give the Canadian response to that," Mr. Mulroney added.

When Mr. Fitzwater was initially asked about Mr. Quayle's comments, the press secretary appeared to support the vice president's position, saying it was a mistake for TV to glorify unwed motherhood.

"For years we were very concerned about the glorification of drug use on television," he said, adding that the concern now was "in the glorification of life as an unwed mother."

A few minutes later, however, he summoned reporters to offer a new perspective.

Noting that Murphy Brown had chosen motherhood over abortion, Mr. Fitzwater said, "We are not very comfortable in getting involved in criticism of her show."

"The other problem I have," Mr. Fitzwater said, trying to inject humor into the battle with Hollywood, "is that Candice Bergen is my personal favorite. I've offered to marry her several times."

The press secretary said he had not read Mr. Quayle's speech — and quickly declined an offer from a reporter to see it. But he said, "I think the vice president was looking at the broader issue of television responsibility."

Mr. Fitzwater said the White House had no advance knowledge of Mr. Quayle's remarks.

# Bush and Clinton Win 2 Western Primaries, Texan Shadows Them

PORTLAND, Oregon — Governor Bill Clinton of Arkansas and President George Bush continued their early strides toward the general election with primary victories in Oregon and Washington state.

The man likely to meet them as an independent candidate in November, the Texas billionaire Ross Perot, apparently made his presence felt by winning a significant number of write-in votes.

Surveys of voters leaving polling places in Oregon indicated that Mr. Perot's name was written onto the ballot by more than one in 10 of Democrats and Republicans. Ballots with write-in names were not immediately counted Tuesday night. Since Oregon awards delegates only to those actually on the ballot, Mr. Perot will not win any convention delegates.

In Oregon, Mr. Clinton led his lone Democratic opponent, former Governor Edmund G. (Jerry) Brown Jr. of California, by 50 percent to 35 percent. In Washington, where Democrats were holding a no-binding primary, Mr. Clinton led by 51 percent to 29 percent.

Mr. Bush, who seeded the Republican nomination in late April, was leading his more conservative challenger, Patrick J. Buchanan, in both states — 76 percent to 22 percent in Oregon and 83 percent to 13 percent in Washington.

Mr. Perot's showing, while



CHOW TIME AT THE WHITE HOUSE — President George Bush, left, escorted Sir John W. Swan, the prime minister of Bermuda, for a private dinner in Washington.

# Kohl Urges Tighter U.S. Policy on Pollution

BONN — Chancellor Helmut Kohl and other German leaders called on the United States on Wednesday to strengthen its environmental policies before the coming world environmental meeting in Rio de Janeiro.

Speaking to a special session of the German parliament, Chancellor Kohl said Germany was willing to make substantial contributions to the Global Environmental Facility, a fund established by the World Bank to support environmental programs in the developing world.

"I link this readiness with the expectation that other countries are also ready to assume their share of responsibility," the chancellor said. "I am thinking especially of the United States and Japan."

According to German officials, the United States is blocking a World Bank proposal to triple the size of the \$1.5-billion environmental fund after next year.

Mr. Kohl was one of the first world leaders to commit himself to attending the Rio conference, which opens June 3. Germany has some of the world's most advanced environmental laws, and public opinion is highly sensitive to environmental issues.

The chancellor said that when he introduced environmental questions at the 1988 economic meeting in Toronto, leaders of other industrial powers reacted with "great skepticism and even rejection."

"The industrialized nations must face their special responsibility," he said. "Our 20 percent of the world population produces about 80 percent of world carbon dioxide emissions." "So it is clear who has the chief responsibility, and who must bear the chief burden."

Scientists said that these emissions, which come from automobiles and various industrial sources, contribute to depleting the Earth's ozone level, which in turn could produce disastrous changes in the world's climate.

Environment Minister Klaus Töpel, who also addressed parliament, criticized the United States and Japan for refusing to increase energy taxes, as the European Community has suggested. The Europeans, he said, could not take such a step alone.

"Naturally we would like to have achieved a better climate agreement than the United States and those who are hiding behind the United States," Mr. Töpel said.

Gerhart Baum of the centrist Free Democrat party, which is a member of Mr. Kohl's governing coalition, criticized the United States for refusing to commit itself to reducing carbon dioxide emissions to the 1990 level by the end of this decade.

At a recent meeting in New York, U.S. officials told planners of the Rio conference that President George Bush would probably not attend the conference if such strict commitments were to be included in the final agreement.

"The key element of the Rio conference is the climate agreement," Mr. Baum said. "The New York compromise does not satisfy us."

"There was no agreement on the stabilization of carbon dioxide emissions" by the year 2000, so the final agreement will fall well short of the German recommendation. Here I criticize the position of the United States.

Leaders of Germany's principal opposition party, the Social Democrats, have denounced the American position as, in the words of one member of parliament, "a kind of ecological terrorism."

The parliamentary session was held in the historic Reichstag building in Berlin. Parliament has been meeting there periodically to show its intention to move to Berlin from Bonn in the coming years.

The new minister of justice, Sabine Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger, was sworn in during the session, the first minister since German unification in 1990 to take an oath of office in Berlin.

# Just How Wealthy Is Ross Perot?

## With Vast Investments and Holdings, the Answer Is: Very

By Charles R. Babcock

WASHINGTON — Ross Perot will not have any trouble finding big sums of his own money to spend if he seeks the presidency, judging from the 118-page statement on his personal wealth that he has made public.

Candidates are not required by the Federal Election Commission to list the exact value of their holdings, so Mr. Perot's fortune cannot be determined from the report. It has been estimated before at more than \$2 billion.

Mr. Perot lists 332 separate investments, more than half worth at least \$1 million and 11 that produced income of at least that much over the last 16 months.

The investments included scores of tax-exempt bond issues, stocks in blue chip corporations and companies, biotechnology and robot firms, as well as oil and gas and real estate partnerships, several foreign currencies — including the Japanese yen — and a bank account in Switzerland.

He also listed 26 loans from banks and brokerage houses, 24 of them for at least \$1 million each. They were used to buy stock and foreign currencies.

Mr. Perot has not announced his candidacy, but he filed the report with the election commission last week because he said he might fall within the technical

# VOICE: Clinton's Change

(Continued from page 1)

campaign's policy advisers met with the framers and Mr. Clinton in an effort to simplify his message in preparation for the general election campaign. But Paul Begala, one of Mr. Clinton's consultants, said that meeting was not as important as the candidate's ability to absorb thousands of personal stories voters had told him over the last several months.

"It's as though every story he's been told, he's now sorted out and worked somehow into what he's saying," Mr. Begala said. "What's amazing to come through is the emotion of his experience during this entire campaign."

The change was evident at events this week where Mr. Clinton delivered speeches that were different in theme and audience but strikingly similar in the emotional weight that he brought to them: A political speech to Democrats and a military conversion address to shipbuilders, both in San Diego; an education-oriented speech to students at the University of Oregon in Eugene; and then his speech to 600 gay activists at the fund-raiser here Monday night.

The Los Angeles event was organized by David Mitrner, a gay activist, corporate consultant and political fund-raiser here who has known Mr. Clinton since their work together in anti-war protests two decades ago.

Mr. Mitrner and other gay leaders first met with Mr. Clinton last October, as his campaign began, and quietly helped develop his policy on AIDS, which was released the night of the fund-raising event.

Mr. Clinton said at the Los Angeles event that he would deliver a major AIDS speech to a "nontraditional group" — meaning an audience that was not gay. Such a group, he said, "might not cheer at what I say."

He also promised that someone who has HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, would address the Democratic Convention in New York.

At one point Mr. Clinton stopped his speech for a moment, looked down at the floor and then out at the crowd and said: "If I could wave my arm and make HIV-positive go away and all of you that have it, I would, so help me God, I would, and I'd give up my race for the White House for that."

There was a time when those words from Mr. Clinton might have seemed the ultimate in pandering. But on this night from the tone of his voice and the look on his face, many in the audience said they were inclined to believe him.

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# U.S. Maneuvers to Block Lawsuit Against Saudis

By Neil A. Lewis

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration has asked the Supreme Court to reconsider a lower-court ruling that would allow American citizens who say they have been tortured in Saudi Arabia to sue the kingdom in U.S. courts.

The Saudi Embassy in Washington has intensively lobbied the State Department on the case.

In one instance, the Saudi ambassador, Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, wrote a letter asking the administration for help. But State Department officials have said they intervened in the case on the merits and not to placate the Saudis.

In the case, Scott J. Nelson of Raleigh, North Carolina, contends that he was severely beaten by Saudi policemen when he was imprisoned in Riyadh in 1984. He says he was beaten so badly that his knee joints snapped and that he has since had difficulty walking.

Mr. Nelson sued the Saudi government in federal court in Florida, contending that a law passed in 1976, the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, allowed him to do so.

According to the law, foreign governments can be sued in U.S. courts if the actions are connected to their commercial activities in the United States. A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit, which is based in Atlanta, supported Mr. Nelson's right to sue, ruling that a connection existed because he had been recruited to work in Saudi Arabia as a hospital safety monitor and might have been tortured as a result of his job performance.

Mr. Nelson has asserted that he was arrested and tortured because he embarrassed some Saudi officials by reporting safety hazards at the hospital, King Fahad Specialist Hospital in Riyadh.

Saudi Embassy officials have denied that Mr. Nelson was mistreated during his 39-day imprisonment. They have said he was dismissed because his job application contained a forged diploma from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mr. Nelson acknowledged having submitted the forgery.

The case indicates that the State Department may be sensitive to Saudi concerns.

Two weeks after the appeals court ruling and just after the end of the Gulf War last year, Prince Bandar wrote Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d seeking help in the matter.

Professor Anthony D'Amato of the Northwestern University Law School, one of Mr. Nelson's attorneys, has said the Bush administration was involving itself in the case "to cozy up to the Saudis."

Edwin D. Williamson, the State Department's legal adviser, dismissed the accusation, saying, "Our decision to file this statement is not based on our relationship with Saudi Arabia."

Mr. Williamson said the administration had not decided to intervene because of the letter from Prince Bandar. Rather, he said, the government believed that the appeals court had incorrectly decided the case.

"We think this ruling could lead to great confusion in the application of the Sovereign Immunities Act," he said, adding that it could encourage foreign governments to retaliate by allowing American officials to be sued in their courts.

# Swiss Join Curbs By UN on Libya

BERN — Switzerland said on Wednesday that it had banned Libyan Arab Airlines from doing business in the country and had asked the Libyan Embassy to cut its diplomats to eight from 10.

A Foreign Ministry statement also said that Libya had asked that one person on the four-member diplomatic staff of the Swiss Embassy in Tripoli be withdrawn.

The action by Switzerland follows imposition of United Nations sanctions against Libya for its failure to cooperate with inquiries into the bombing of U.S. and French airliners in 1988 and 1989.

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a=arrival, d=departure, c=1 hour later from May 1 onwards.

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**WORLD BRIEFS**

**Printers Threaten Strike**

The fourth threat of a general strike by the printing unions in Germany is set to take place on Wednesday, this time by the unions in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. The unions staged warning strikes in Cologne, Düsseldorf, Münster and Wuppertal.

The unions are seeking a 12-month contract with a 3.3 percent wage increase. Employers have offered a 3.3 percent wage increase but the union would agree on a longer contract.

The unions are scheduled for a meeting on Thursday.

**Harder-Line Foe in Vote**

Masoud Barzani, the Kurdish leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, said on Wednesday in preliminary results from the election in the northwestern governorate of Sulaymaniyah that he could be elected as the leader of the province.

Barzani is the strongest of the candidates in the province. He is a member of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, who opposes concessions to the Iraqi government. He is the most prominent of the 100,000 Kurds who fled Iraq in 1968.

**End to Dispute With India**

Prime Minister Li Peng of China said Wednesday that a long-standing border dispute with India has been resolved.

China and India have a 2,000-kilometer border. China says India has a 14,500-kilometer border with China. India says it has a 14,500-kilometer border with China.

**Leader to Step Down in '94**

Ronald Lubbers, the 61-year-old politician who led the Dutch parties, announced Wednesday that he will step down as leader of the Christian Democrats in 1994 as the Netherlands' longest-serving prime minister.

Lubbers' Christian Democrats won 33 seats in the 150-member parliament. He is expected to be replaced by Wim Kok of the Labour Party.

**Republicans Set Force Level**

Republicans and other former Soviet bloc members in the United States are expected to announce their force levels in the coming weeks.

The House of Representatives is expected to announce its force levels in the coming weeks. The Senate is expected to announce its force levels in the coming weeks.

**LEVEL UPDATE**

The following table shows the level of the Japanese Yen against the US Dollar and the German Mark.

Country	Level
Japan	148.00
Germany	1.80

**Photograph Tourists**

The following table shows the number of tourists from various countries visiting the United States.

Country	Number of Tourists
Japan	1,200,000
Germany	800,000
France	600,000
Italy	500,000
Spain	400,000
United Kingdom	300,000
Canada	200,000
Australia	100,000
Other	1,000,000

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China Ties to U.S.: Hard-Liners at Work?

By Jim Mann. WASHINGTON — When senior American officials sought to restore good relations with China after the killings near Tiananmen Square, they discovered two years ago that hard-line elements in the Beijing leadership were trying to undermine their efforts.

Now, it appears that these forces are trying once again to worsen tensions between the United States and China. In the process, they are providing a glimpse of turbulence that may be in store for the United States as China's leadership engages in a new round of political infighting and power struggles.

Over the weekend, Chinese security officials searched the offices of The Washington Post's Beijing correspondent, Lena H. Sun, ransacked her files and seized some notebooks and papers. On Monday, the United States lodged a protest over the incident with China, and the State Department spokesman, Margaret D. Tutwiler, said that "we've obviously said we deplore this type of thing."

The search occurred a month after China's refusal to allow two prominent American senators to visit China and Tibet. It followed by only a few days the beating in Beijing of Han Dongfang, a Chinese dissident who Secretary of State James A. Baker 3rd had been led to believe in November would be permitted to leave the country soon.

Reporter Accused Of Getting Secrets

The Associated Press. BEIJING — China's secret police Wednesday accused the Washington Post's correspondent in Beijing of illegally obtaining secret documents.

The police who searched Lena H. Sun's office Sunday said they found more than 10 confidential documents that had been "illegally obtained," the Xinhua press agency reported, quoting an unidentified official of the Beijing State Security Bureau.

Barbara Alghiero, a reporter for the Italian news agency ANSA and president of the Beijing Foreign Correspondents Club, was summoned by the Chinese Foreign Ministry to hear a similar statement. Ms. Sun said in a written statement that she receives many unsolicited materials, "the origin and authenticity of which I cannot possibly verify."

"My job is to gather information and evaluate everything that comes my way," she said. In place of an extensive system of unfair controls on the lives of non-Japanese residents, Foreign residents, for instance, can still be arrested under the new law if they are caught without their special alien registration cards, or face criminal prosecution if they fail to report to the government changes of address or jobs within two weeks of the changes.

recent action raised an "obvious" question: "Is there a faction in Beijing that would like to screw up relations with the West?" China's leaders are getting ever more frail. Its paramount leader, Deng Xiaoping, now 87, was last seen on television early this year, exhorting the nation to pursue economic change, but walking only with the help of his daughter, Chen Yim, the conservative party elder who is the most powerful critic of the pace and scope of Mr. Deng's economic changes, is 86 and in much worse health.

This autumn, the Chinese Communist Party is scheduled to hold a crucial Congress, its first in five years and the first since the political upheavals that produced the crushing of Beijing's democracy demonstrators in 1989. The congress has the power to select new leaders, including a Central Committee that will oversee the party for another five years.

After Mr. Deng's rare public appearance, Chinese advocates of change have seemed to be gaining ground over hard-liners within the leadership. But American analysts said the search of Ms. Sun's office was one of several recent incidents showing that the political maneuvering in China, which amounts to a struggle over who will hold power after Mr. Deng's death, is especially intense now and will continue at least until the party congress.

China's nationwide security apparatus is under the control of a party official, Qiao Shi, who has some links to advocates of change within the party. An American official noted that recently, "there has been an ongoing campaign by Qiao Shi to control the outflow of state secrets." But this American official and several others said it was also possible that Beijing security officials carried out the search as part of an effort to embarrass Mr. Qiao or advocates of change within the leadership.

Japan to End the Fingerprinting of Permanent Aliens

By James Sterngold. New York Times Service. TOKYO — After years of bitter protests and debate, the parliament enacted a law Wednesday that will eliminate routine fingerprinting of permanent foreign residents, a practice that many non-Japanese have regarded as one of the most humiliating symbols of government-sanctioned discrimination.

Foreign residents, for instance, can still be arrested under the new law if they are caught without their special alien registration cards, or face criminal prosecution if they fail to report to the government changes of address or jobs within two weeks of the changes. Permanent foreign residents, many of whose families have been in Japan for generations, also complained that they would still be denied the right to work for the government or to vote.

includes many forms of discrimination," said Solm Chung In, an official of the Korean Residents Union of Japan. The new law means that about 602,000 Korean and Taiwanese residents, many of whose families were brought here forcibly when their homelands were colonies of Japan, will no longer have to submit to the regular fingerprinting with local authorities in order to work, study and live in Japan.

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Hub Power advertisement for a Chief Financial Officer position in Pakistan, including company details and contact information.

Attaché(e) de presse international advertisement for a press attaché position, including details about the role and application process.

Executive Positions Available advertisement listing various roles such as Medical Doctor, Law Publishing, and General Positions.

International Herald Tribune ads work advertisement for recruitment services.

EDUCATIONAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE advertisement listing various educational roles.

# Frustration on Bangkok Streets: 'All the People Can Do Is Die'

By Nicholas D. Kristof  
New York Times Service

**BANGKOK** — When the army troops suddenly prepared to attack on Wednesday afternoon, pointing their automatic weapons menacingly at the crowd 30 meters away and trotting forward, Narumon Siratvarasa shrieked and started sprinting away.

"It's kill, kill, kill!" Miss Narumon, a 21-year-old accounting student, screamed as she fled.

A few minutes later, as it became clear that the troops were simply clearing the street near the Democracy Monument, not actually attacking the crowd, Miss Narumon looked out at several dozen other protesters seeking shelter in the same alley and added proudly: "When the people all join together like this, we will win. We'll definitely win!"

That optimism — colored by fear of bloodshed in the short term — seemed widespread as angry students, professionals and workers faced down edgy soldiers at intersections all over the Thai capital.

There were a few skirmishes and occasional gunfire, but most of the demonstrators simply watched or taunted the troops and waited for more horrors to unfold, like the incident Monday night in which troops fired on protesters and reportedly left at least 40 dead and hundreds wounded.

"Of course there will be more killing," said Somjai, 24, a shipping company employee who declined to give her full name, and she pointed at an army helicopter buzzing overhead. "The soldiers have guns and the people have nothing. All the people can do is . . ."

Her voice trailed off, and then she sobberly picked up the thought: "All the people can do is die."

Miss Somjai had never taken part in politics before, had never even been particularly interested in politics before, but she came out Wednesday to the front lines of the protesters — about 20 meters (60 feet) from a row of troops in green camouflage uniforms, swinging automatic weapons nervously from



Thai soldiers taking a break in the middle of a Bangkok street Wednesday after they cleared out demonstrators who broke lights and burned two trucks.

side to side — to express outrage at the killings of protesters in recent days and to do her part to overthrow the man that several characterized as the most hated person in Bangkok, General Suchinda Kraprayoon, the prime minister.

General Suchinda, a former military leader who staged a coup last year against a democratic government and took power himself a month ago as an unelected prime minister, may well have supporters in the countryside and among the troops.

But on Wednesday, before he went on television at the king's bidding to announce concessions that appeared to end the crisis, General Suchinda was abhorred by the citizens in Bangkok's streets.

"He's a crazy man," said a 14-year-old high school student. "Devil, monster, predator!" added

a 37-year-old businessman. "He kills everybody who opposes him. He must be destroyed. He must go to hell."

"He's a liar and used military force to kill people," said Worathip, a 34-year-old businesswoman who declined to give her full name. "Everybody hates him. I only know one person who likes him, and that's my boss."

Thais attributed their bitterness to a general weariness with army meddling in politics, coupled with anger at General Suchinda's reversal of a promise he made last year not to seek the prime minister's job. The killings on Monday night were taken by some as the final proof of what they consider his monstrosities.

General Suchinda imposed news censorship in Thailand and explained the use of force as a neces-

sity to prevent a Communist plot to overthrow the monarchy, but the controls on news organizations seemed only to inflame the crowds Wednesday. Many people said they were listening to Thai language broadcasts on BBC radio, but others simply relied upon rumors — and these seemed to reflect emotions more than fact.

"I hear 3,000 people were killed," a 37-year-old taxi driver whispered near the makeshift prison where thousands of demonstrators are being detained. "All shot!"

"They say that 5,000 people were killed," the same driver advised 15 minutes later. "At least."

"There were at least 500,000 people demonstrating that night," the driver concluded a few minutes after that. "Now, if 10 percent of them were killed . . ." He paused

and struggled with the math, and a look of horror crossed his face.

Those out on the streets on Wednesday, playing a game of cat and mouse with the troops and occasionally starting small fires, seemed a broad cross-section of urban Thais, with a slightly higher proportion from the middle class.

"We will never work until Suchinda steps down," said Pisan Isarasarasat, a 26-year-old laborer. "It's up to us, as workers, to stop him. And finally, in the end, he will step down."

The only group not represented was the Thai peasantry — the main source of the army troops on the other side of the barbed-wire barricades.

"They come from the countryside," said Somchai, a former sol-

dier who was afraid to give his full name. "They'll shoot because they believe in their commanders, and because they believe in Suchinda."

Although overall public opinion cannot be gauged accurately on the basis of interviews with demonstrators, those on the streets seemed to want the United States to take a tougher stance against General Suchinda.

"I hope your big country will pressure the Thai government, pressure the big men here, until we have democracy," said Charwit Sukthame, a 44-year-old architect. "You must help the Thai people now. You should have sanctions."

"We need the U.S. Army now," urged a 37-year-old cashier. "Please send a fax to President Bush and tell him to send the Marines."

# MOLDOVA: Russia Provocation

(Continued from page 1)

Izvestia that 20 people had been killed or wounded by shells fired from the Moldovan-controlled west bank of the Dniester at army bases over the last few days.

Russian officials said they had canceled negotiations to register tanks and other heavy weapons recently seized by Dniester militiamen. The 14th Army's military council appealed to the militia to hand back the weapons, saying that if not, there could be "unforeseeable consequences" and "offer European countries could be drawn into the conflict. This was apparently a reference to neighboring Romania.

In Georgia, meanwhile, the new leadership headed by Eduard A. Shevardnadze, the former Soviet foreign minister, accused supporters of the overthrow of Zviad G. Gamsakhurdia of attempting to send a head of refugees from Georgia to the ruling State Council said in a statement that the army was the work of "destructive forces" trying to sabotage a truce in the region, which has been trying to break away from Georgia.

According to last June, at least 35 people, including a number of

children, died in the bus attack.

Further south, efforts appeared to be under way to arrange a ceasefire along the border between Armenia and the Azerbaijan enclave of Nakhichevan. The enclave, which is surrounded by Armenia and Turkey, has come under repeated shelling from Armenia over the past week.

The leader of Nakhichevan, Gaidar Aliyev, spoke by phone with President Levon A. Ter-Petrosyan of Armenia in the presence of journalists and urged him to order a truce. Mr. Ter-Petrosyan denied that Armenian forces were involved in the fighting.

Secession for Azerbaijan?

Azerbaijan will become the first republic to withdraw from the Commonwealth of Independent States, the head of the coalition that toppled the country's president was quoted Wednesday as saying, according to an Associated Press report from Moscow.

Abulfaz Elchibek, chairman of the country's nationalist Popular Front, also said in a newspaper interview that there was still hope for a peaceful settlement to the 4-year-old battle for control of Nagorno-Karabakh.

# CAPTIVES: Tough Line by Serbs

(Continued from page 1)

support and participate in the defense of the legal government of Bosnia-Herzegovina, which was recognized as an independent country by the United States and European Community in April.

"There are threats against the Serbs from some people," said Rajindin Somai, a spokesman for the Bosnia-Herzegovina government, speaking by telephone from Sarajevo. "The government is attempting to keep people calm and prevent retaliatory attacks."

The president of the Children's Embassy, Lubomir Berberovic, who's a Serb, said Sarajevo's Serbs were afraid of coming under attack.

"There are children in this column whose parents are armed and very nervous to say the least," Mr. Berberovic said. "These parents have the idea of taking hostages and medicine to Sarajevo on Friday because of the Serbian attack Tuesday on a Red Cross convoy that left one aid official dead."

Catholic Croats, who mostly supported the republic's independence, and 1.4 million Eastern Orthodox Serbs, who opposed it.

The mothers, children and old people in the convoy, which was headed for the Croatian port city of Split, are mixed ethnically, officials said.

Three Yugoslav Army barracks in Sarajevo remained surrounded by mixed-ethnic forces loyal to the government of Bosnia-Herzegovina despite an agreement to allow the garrisons to depart on Tuesday, Sarajevo radio said.

"The troops will not leave until their safety has been guaranteed," said General Ranko Mladic, commander of the Bosnian Serb Army, in a radio interview.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees has canceled plans to send two large convoys with food and medicine to Sarajevo on Friday because of the Serbian attack Tuesday on a Red Cross convoy that left one aid official dead.

# REUNION: Finding the Children

(Continued from page 1)

300 men of the 452d who were shot down over Europe, never to return.

Violet Jeffery, whose family owned a farm beside the Deopham Green airfield, also stood on the podium to recount her memories.

"One day we were contacted by the drone of planes leaving in the morning," Mrs. Jeffery said. "And it was noticeable that not so many returned in the evening."

Through the coming summer, villages and churches have scheduled dozens of reunions and ceremonies, parades and air shows, across England to let returning American airmen, in turn, some of the Americans are bringing over memorials of their own.

In Northamptonshire, for exam-

ple, a former American air crew member recently donated 94 bicycles to children in four villages, as repayment of sorts for what he described as a wartime debt. In 1944, he confessed, he "borrowed" and then "never returned" a village's bike, so he would not be late for a reunion briefing.

Mr. Comer and Mr. Byrd also shared through their memories recently, remembering how they had met their English girlfriends at service dances.

"I often think how hard it must have been for the child, especially with the being black and her mother white and all," said Mr. Comer, who was stationed at the time in Cornwall as a member of an all-black U.S. Army engineering battalion.

# The General: Seasoned Infighter

By Barbara Crossette  
New York Times Service

**WASHINGTON** — Prime Minister Suchinda Kraprayoon, whose quick switch from supreme commander of the armed forces to premier in Thailand in early April provoked the storm of dissent that has paralyzed national life, is the latest of a line of army generals drawn into politics.

Although he said that he took up the duties of prime minister reluctantly, General Suchinda had been the real power behind the government in Thailand since February 1991, when under his leadership a civilian government was overthrown and a junta formed.

"At that time, the general said that the military was saving the country from rapacious and irresponsible politicians. The move was not unpopular in Thailand, where democratic institutions have not been firmly established. The government of Chulachornakul, elected in 1988, had achieved a special notoriety for the corruption of some of its ministers.

In April, when General Suchinda named himself prime minister, he put more than a dozen of Mr. Chulachai's colleagues in his cabinet. The move helped to fuel the protest that spilled onto the streets.

General Suchinda, 58, graduated from the na-

tional military academy, Chulachornakul, in a class that now dominates every important sector of the armed services hierarchy in Thailand. His brother-in-law, General Issarapong Nookpakdi, now army commander, is part of that fraternity.

When it came time to give General Suchinda a political front, another classmate, Air Chief Marshal Kaset Rojananin, the air force commander, formed a party.

Prime Minister Suchinda, who speaks English fluently, attended several military courses in the United States as a young officer. In the early 1970s, he served in the defense attaché's office at the Royal Thai Embassy in Washington.

If General Suchinda did not have to campaign for public office, as Thais are now demanding that all prime ministers do, he did have to compete for power behind the scenes with other ambitious officers. His most serious rival was Charvati Yongchuyudil, his predecessor as head of the armed forces, who was already in the field with his New Aspiration Party.

General Suchinda has been under siege publicly in the last two months as well as behind the scenes throughout 1991. He has proved to be an obstinate, often quick-tempered man who does not respond charitably to criticism and who is greatly concerned with a loss of image.

# The Opponent: Virtuous Politician

Washington Times Service

**WASHINGTON** — Chamlong Srimuang, whose public fast stirred the emotions of thousands of Thais and galvanized Bangkok crowds, began his political career as an irrepressible novelty.

When he announced in 1985 that he was running for the governorship of metropolitan Bangkok, he seemed to represent everything antithetical to Thailand's nonstop, brassy capital city.

Wearing the rough peasant shirt of dark blue that became his hallmark, Mr. Chamlong preached virtue and asceticism. In a town where bars, restaurants and brothels never closed, Mr. Chamlong did not drink, he ate one vegetarian meal a day and he slept on bare floors. He and his wife had given up sex.

He won in a landslide.

Over the ensuing years, Mr. Chamlong did not, as many expected, go out of fashion. He and his Power of Justice Party stayed in the arena, and in the national election of March 22 took all but three of Bangkok's seats in parliament. He had proved himself a national figure with an important base in a country with only one major city.

"What was important was that enormous political pull he had in Bangkok," said Evelyn Culbert, a Southeast Asian specialist and former deputy assistant secretary of state for the region.

Equally if not more important, Mr. Chamlong is widely reported to be respected by King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who has devoted his life to public-service projects.

But Mr. Chamlong's example as a clean politician and his symbolic power as a focus of opposition was crucial to the success of recent demonstrations demanding the resignation of the unelected prime minister, Suchinda Kraprayoon, many Thais and foreign specialists believed that the former governor, now a member of parliament, remained too controversial for higher political office.

Mr. Chamlong, 56, is a retired major general in the Thai Army, and occasionally his zealous promotion of virtue takes on an authoritarian ring.

He belongs to an evangelical Buddhist sect, the Santi Asok, led by a monk who has in effect challenged the hierarchy of Thailand's mainstream Buddhist organization.

Ironically, Mr. Chamlong's uncompromising rectitude — his is the only party that alleges the buying of votes — is seen as a drawback to success in Thai politics, where deal making is a constant.

The Far Eastern Economic Review wrote recently that many believe Mr. Chamlong "wants to introduce into Thai politics the one thing they fear most — ideology."

— BARBARA CROSSETTE

# THAIS: At King's Urging, 2 Sides Move to End Crisis

(Continued from page 1)

not seek the prime minister's post. He reneged after general elections in March, in which he did not run. He was appointed prime minister April 7 by a coalition of five pro-military parties.

General Suchinda released Mr. Chamlong from prison for the talks at the palace. Mr. Chamlong, a former general and governor of Bangkok, had been arrested earlier in the week for leading the protests, which he initiated with a hunger strike.

King Bhumibol's comments on television were his first in public since the violence erupted Sunday night, although there had been widespread reports the king was

working behind the scenes to find a solution to the conflict.

An army-run television channel said the meeting at the palace was arranged by former Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda, who serves on the Privy Council, which advises the king.

Before the surprise meeting, Bangkok swirled with rumors that troops loyal to Mr. Prem, who was prime minister from 1980 to 1988, had clashed with General Suchinda's forces or were marching on the capital from the north. Reporters on the northern approaches to the city saw military roadblocks but no major troop movements or fighting.

As the prime minister and the opposition leader spoke early

Thursday, the city was still under curfew, a restriction imposed during the height of the demonstrations. Troops patrolled the streets and occasional gunfire could be heard even after the prime minister announced his concessions.

Thousands of democracy demonstrators were manning barricades around Ramkhamhaeng University in the northeastern Bangkok in defiance of the curfew.

Earlier in the day, General Suchinda announced the official death toll of 40. But numerous unconfirmed reports put the toll much higher. The deaths occurred when troops fired on crowds of unarmed demonstrators.

(AP, Reuters, AFP)

# ASEAN: A Setback for Stability

(Continued from page 1)

agency photographs showing Thai security forces clashing with protesters.

In an editorial Wednesday, The Straits Times in Singapore warned that without a compromise settlement, "opposition demands may become more extreme, attracting a like response from the government."

In Malaysia, the New Straits Times said the demonstrations showed that popular acceptance of coups as a way of political life in Thailand had ended. "It demonstrates that democracy and militarism cannot necessarily be mixed in the governance of a country," the paper added.

The opinions expressed by both newspapers often reflect those of the government.

In addition to Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore, ASEAN includes Indonesia, the Philippines and Brunei.

To maintain the cohesion that has made ASEAN one of the most successful regional organizations since its beginning in 1967, members have refrained from interfering in each other's internal affairs.

Officials said privately, however, that they deplored excessive use of force by Thai policemen and troops.

One official said that he blamed General Suchinda Kraprayoon, the Thai prime minister, for touching off the rioting in Bangkok by ordering the arrest of mainstream opposition leaders.

General Suchinda accused Communist sympathizers on Tuesday of infiltrating opposition protests and instigating violence.

Anti-Communist rhetoric from Bangkok will increase suspicions in Vietnam about the intentions of Thailand's military rulers, complicating the country's relations with Indochina, said Paul Wedel, a director of the Pacific Rim Consulting Group.

General Suchinda's need to court support from business interests in Thailand that oppose lower tariffs may prompt Bangkok to seek a delay in forming the proposed ASEAN free trade zone, said Ditsman S. Simandjuntak, an Indonesian economist and executive di-

rector of the Prasetya Mulia Management Institute in Jakarta.

Thailand's partners in ASEAN fear that violent confrontation in Bangkok will only prolong conflict and make a political settlement more difficult to achieve.

Analysts said that, by openly challenging authority, the Thai demonstrators were sending a signal that maintenance of order in the future, respect for authority has buttressed stability in ASEAN countries over the last decade of rapid economic progress.

Some ASEAN countries would be disturbed if General Suchinda were forced to step down as prime minister because it would "represent a rise in people's power," said Bilveer Singh, a political scientist at the National University of Singapore.

The political culture in ASEAN, he added, "is generally much more authoritarian than it is in the West or Japan."

That authority, first successfully overturned by a largely middle-class uprising against President Ferdinand E. Marcos of the Philippines in 1986, is coming under increasing criticism elsewhere in ASEAN as economic growth and coalition create new demands for political participation.

Indonesia is in the midst of a parliamentary election campaign that will end June 3 to allow a five-day cooling-off period before voting on June 9.

The two opposition parties have attacked the economic policies of Indonesia's longtime President Suharto, asserting that they help the rich more than the poor.

"The economy of Indonesia develops, the country's middle class is becoming larger and beginning to take a more critical approach to what it sees as nondemocratic elements in Indonesian society," said Bruce Gale, Singapore regional manager for Political & Economic Risk Consultancy Pte. Ltd.

How the Indonesian government and the political establishment armed forces adjust to the emergence of a more assertive urban middle class will be critical to Indonesia's stability.

But Mr. Gale said that political repercussions from Thailand should not be exaggerated.

"There is a stronger feeling in Indonesia than in Thailand that consensus is necessary because without it the country could tear apart" on ethnic, linguistic, religious and regional lines, he said.

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HEALTH / SCIENCE

Midlife Myths: What About Men?

Studies Show Testosterone Drops, But Supplements Are Controversial

By Natalie Angier New York Times Service

NEW YORK — With talk of menopause reaching a passionate pitch nationwide, many are beginning to ask how the other half of the baby-boom generation is faring as it approaches 50.

They are wondering whether middle-aged men experience a drop in the sex hormones that sculptured their youthful bodies and minds, and if so how that biochemical dip might affect their health and temperament.

Endocrinologists, who study the delicate balance of hormones, emphasize that there is no true male equivalent of menopause. While women's levels of the female hormone estrogen plunge sharply in a relatively short time, falling to vestigial amounts sometime between 48 and 52, men almost never undergo a precipitous change in concentrations of the male hormone testosterone.

Some doctors have dismissed the idea of a male menopause as a faintly ridiculous myth, the product of an overmedicalized culture obsessed with its health and pathologically fearful of aging and death. Nevertheless, a number of recent studies have suggested that testosterone levels do slump gradually with age, perhaps by as much as 30 percent to 40 percent between the ages of 48 and 70.

Some researchers suggest the drop in testosterone causes a broad range of symptoms, including a decline in muscle mass and strength, a buildup of body fat, a loss of bone density, flagging energy, lowered fertility and fading virility.

OLDER men also tend to lose the circadian rhythms that affect testosterone fluxes in younger men. In a man of 21, for example, hormone levels are at their peak first thing in the morning, which is one reason why young men often awake with erections; the levels then fall steadily throughout the afternoon and surge again slightly in the evening. In a man of 65, said Dr. Alvin Matsumoto, an associate professor of gerontology at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Seattle, "that variation is generally blunted."

In Europe, researchers call the overall decline in testosterone activity "andropause," after the class of androgen hormones that includes testosterone; in the United States, a man's struggle with aging is more likely to be described with the sardonic and more encompassing phrase, "midlife crisis."

Scientists are divided over whether any of the effects of gradual testosterone loss are serious enough to merit treatment with hormone supplements, the male counterpart of estrogen replacement therapy in postmenopausal women.

Some gerontologists suggest that many elderly men may benefit from testosterone supplements, and the National Institutes of Health recently requested research proposals to examine whether such therapy could help fend off bone loss, frailty and depression.

Others warn that the excessive use of male hormones could raise the risk of prostate cancer and cardiovascular disease, a large price to pay merely to hang onto youthful biceps and libido. They worry that normal aging among men will come to be viewed as a deficiency disease and that men will be cajoled into taking expensive and potentially hazardous treatments they do not really need.

"I don't believe in the male midlife crisis," said Dr. John B. McKinlay, an epidemiologist at Boston University who has studied aging in both men and women. "But even though in my perspective there is no epidemiological, physiological or clinical evidence for such a syndrome, I think by the year 2000 the syndrome will exist. There's very strong interest in treating aging men for a profit, just as there is for menopausal women."

SCIENTISTS also argue over whether a drop in testosterone is an inevitable consequence of aging that would occur in even the most robust men, or whether it is the result of ill health, overweight, underactivity, drugs taken for medical conditions like hypertension and diabetes and other factors that so often accompany the wearying job of staying alive. "The findings on this have been quite variable," said Dr. S. Mitchell Harman, an endocrinologist at the National Institute on Aging in Bethesda, Maryland.

One study in Germany found surprisingly high testosterone levels in a group of healthy men over 55, and that only as the men advanced into their 60s and 70s and suffered serious health problems did their hormone concentrations measurably drop. In contrast, researchers at the University of Washington in Seattle and Emory University in Atlanta have found that even among vigorous older men, the amount of active testosterone in the bloodstream is lower than in men under the age of 45, and many doctors say they believe that some degree of testosterone decline is almost inevitable.

Most studies indicate that the testes, rather than the brain, are to blame for any testosterone decline with age, and that for unknown reasons the testicular tissue becomes gradually less responsive to the tweak of pituitary hormones, leading to a drop in androgen production. What that decline does to body and mind is still being sorted out. It almost surely cuts down on sperm output, and particularly in the strength and mobility of sperm. A loss of testosterone could be part of the reason aging men have less muscle mass, more body fat and thinner bones than their younger counterparts.

The hormonal decline may also affect a man's mood, lowering his energy levels, his assertiveness and his powers of concentration. "The fact that women now feel comfortable talking about menopause is a giant step forward in improving the health of postmenopausal women," Dr. Vivian Pinn, the director of the National Institutes of Health's new Office of Research on Women's Health, said. The issue goes far beyond relieving the temporary discomforts that most women experience to some degree as they pass through menopause. Studies suggest that only about 5 percent to 15 percent of women have menopausal symptoms bothersome enough to prompt them to seek medical attention. Rather, the issue today focuses on more long-term, life-threatening and costly health concerns like heart disease, bone disease and cancer, as well as long-lasting quality-of-life issues like sexual satisfaction. In a forthcoming report, the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment puts it boldly: "Few life events, other than aging, affect as many people as the menopause, and few other recently introduced medical interventions have as great a potential for affecting morbidity and mortality as does hormone therapy." Yet, the agency noted that because menopause was long considered by doctors and medical researchers more an issue of comfort and vanity than health, there has been too little research on the long-term effects of hormone replacement after menopause. On Monday, the agency said, "A woman's decision regarding the management of her menopause must be made under conditions of confusion and uncertainty." Meanwhile, pharmaceutical companies are racing to develop more acceptable and safer hormone regimens in hope of capturing a market that already exceeds half a billion dollars and is still growing. If manufacturers and enthusiastic doctors prevail, upward of 90 percent of women will take replacement hormones for three to five decades. This prospect worries many experts and alarms some who say much more must be known before the 40 million otherwise healthy women now in menopause, and the millions more nearing it, begin decades-long therapy with a powerful hormone. Sorely needed, the congressional agency said,



Benefits and Risks Of Hormone Therapy

Hormone replacement therapy is the administration of estrogen, with or without progestin, to replace hormones no longer produced by the ovaries when a woman stops ovulating.



- On the positive side... Prevents osteoporosis and bone fractures due to thinness. Prevents heart attack and stroke. Eliminates hot flashes. Prevents vaginal atrophy. Prevents laxity of skin and pelvic muscles. ...but there are possible risks. Cancer of the uterine lining (endometrium). Breast cancer. Blood clots or hypertension. Gallstones. Vaginal bleeding, breast tenderness, PMS-like symptoms.

Sources: "Managing Your Menopause," Utian and Jacobowitz (Prentice-Hall); The New York Times.

Should Menopause Be Treated?

By Jane E. Brody New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Menopause, long mired in myth and controversy and shrouded by a cloak of embarrassed silence, is fast becoming the leading women's health issue of the decade.

As baby boomers mature and life expectancy lengthens, the question of what to do about menopause has become central for millions of women, most of whom will spend more than a third of their lives in the postmenopausal years.

Emboldened by a new openness, these women are now demanding better answers to the nagging question: to treat or not to treat menopause and the decades beyond with hormone replacements.

"The fact that women now feel comfortable talking about menopause is a giant step forward in improving the health of postmenopausal women," Dr. Vivian Pinn, the director of the National Institutes of Health's new Office of Research on Women's Health, said.

The issue goes far beyond relieving the temporary discomforts that most women experience to some degree as they pass through menopause. Studies suggest that only about 5 percent to 15 percent of women have menopausal symptoms bothersome enough to prompt them to seek medical attention. Rather, the issue today focuses on more long-term, life-threatening and costly health concerns like heart disease, bone disease and cancer, as well as long-lasting quality-of-life issues like sexual satisfaction.

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If manufacturers and enthusiastic doctors prevail, upward of 90 percent of women will take replacement hormones for three to five decades. This prospect worries many experts and alarms some who say much more must be known before the 40 million otherwise healthy women now in menopause, and the millions more nearing it, begin decades-long therapy with a powerful hormone.

Sorely needed, the congressional agency said,

are "objective findings from well-controlled studies to determine who will benefit and how, for how long a particular intervention will be effective, and in which body systems and organs."

Some answers may come from the Women's Health Initiative, a study of 140,000 women in which participants will be randomly assigned to take different hormone therapies.

The government-sponsored study, which is expected to cost more than \$500 million, will examine the role of hormone therapy and other factors, like diet and exercise, in preventing the major killing and crippling diseases of aging women.

But the study, begun by Dr. Bernadine Healy, director of the National Institutes of Health, is only in the formative stages and is expected to take 10 years.

Although much of the research done so far suffers from one or more methodological flaws,

Sorely needed are objective studies to determine who will benefit and how.

a host of studies suggest hormone replacement is potentially health-preserving and even life-saving for most women.

For heart disease alone, the data suggest, hormone therapy seems to cut the death rate in half during the postmenopausal years, when women's bodies produce little of the estrogen hormones that naturally protect them against atherosclerosis.

Estrogen replacement also slows the inevitable aging of the bones that can lead to debilitating fractures. Hormone therapy can also enhance the quality of a woman's life by preventing and even reversing disturbing changes in genital and urinary organs, the nervous system and the skin.

These changes, along with hot flashes, night sweats and other problems, typically accompany the declining production of estrogens by the woman's ovaries.

Most women seem to pass through menopause with minimal discomforts or disruptions and seek no treatment. Only about 15 percent to 18 percent of postmenopausal women now take hormone replacements.

Social and economic barriers clearly stand in the way of some. But many other women who can readily afford hormone therapy are reluctant to try it. Some may be ignorant of the heart or bone problems estrogen depletion can cause. Others fear the medical disadvantages of taking potent hormones for years and perhaps for the rest of their lives.

Already smearing from the undisputed link first discovered in 1975 between estrogen replacement and endometrial cancer, many menopausal women are taking a long, hard look at the conflicting findings about estrogen's ef-

fects on the risk of breast cancer, the disease that American women most fear.

For many menopausal women, the dilemma goes beyond weighing medical benefits versus risks. Some resist the implication that they have a kind of deficiency disorder that, like diabetes or thyroid disease, requires treatment with replacement hormones.

Others, angry about the long-standing professional inattention to this issue, find themselves with relatively little conclusive research data on which to base a rational decision.

Dr. Karen Steinberg of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, who analyzed the effect of hormone therapy on breast cancer, said, "While from a population standpoint the benefits of hormone therapy clearly outweigh the risks, for the individual woman the decision has got to be based on each one's risk of developing the various diseases that replacement hormones influence."

The production of estrogens by the ovaries starts dropping at about the age of 35, long before a woman goes through menopause, but the decline accelerates at menopause, when a woman's ovaries shut down and her menstrual cycles cease.

Many tissues throughout the body have receptors for estrogen, meaning that the hormone influences them in some way. Thus, a lack of estrogens affects genital organs (vagina, uterus and cervix), urinary organs (bladder and urethra), breasts, skin, hair, mucous membranes, bones, heart and blood vessels, pelvic muscles and the brain.

Estrogen replacement alone cannot keep the internal and external ravages of age at bay indefinitely, but it can retard such changes in estrogen-dependent tissues and reverse many of them even if estrogen use is begun years after menopause has occurred.

Thus, a decade or more after pain and bleeding have forced a woman to forgo intercourse, estrogen replacement can restore the "feeling, depth and secretions of the vagina that are important to sexual pleasure."

Most serious are postmenopausal effects on the bones, heart and blood vessels. When levels of circulating estrogen drop, the bones lose minerals faster than they gain them.

HIP fractures result in fatal complications in 15 to 20 percent of elderly women who suffer them. But women who take estrogen replacement sustain 40 percent fewer hip fractures than those who do not take the hormone.

By far the highest death rates accompany postmenopausal changes in the circulatory system. After a decline in estrogen, many women experience a rise in blood levels of artery-clogging LDL-cholesterol and a decline in protective HDL-cholesterol.

This and other cardiovascular changes bring a sharp rise in heart attacks. Without estrogen treatment, women's coronary mortality rates triple within 15 to 20 years of menopause. With the hormone, their risk of dying of a heart attack at any age may be reduced by 50 percent, several major studies have indicated.

Out of Africa or Elsewhere: Eve Theory Challenged

By John Noble Wilford New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In the search for modern human origins, it has been all about Eve the last five years. Molecular biologists studying certain genetic components of today's humans had come to the startlingly precise conclusion that all family trees lead back to a single African woman who lived some 200,000 years ago — the mother of all humankind, who inevitably came to be known as Eve.

Now the serpent of uncertainty has slithered into the garden. Its bite has undermined a critical statistical foundation for the Eve hypothesis. Damaging flaws in the computer analysis leading to the hypothesis were uncovered by Dr. Alan Templeton, a geneticist at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

"The inference that the tree of humankind is rooted in Africa is not supported by the data," he concluded.

Anthropologists who vigorously oppose the hypothesis are claiming victory. They argue that the fossil record tells a different story.

In particular, they dispute the idea of a single place of origin and the implication that modern, big-brained Homo sapiens arose in Africa as a brand new species and replaced, rather than mixed with, archaic humans there as well as in Europe and Asia.

Their view is that the evolution to modern humans occurred roughly simultaneously in many places. Geneticists at the forefront of the Eve hypothesis concede the statistical flaws in their analysis. But they insist that other evidence reassures them that Africa is the most likely place for the emergence of the modern human species. They are less sure, however, of the timing.

Dr. Mark Stoneking, a molecular biologist at Pennsylvania State University, said: "The data do indicate an African origin. But you can't say that the non-African origin is statistically ruled out."

Dr. Stoneking was a member of the research team, then at the University of California at Berkeley, that in 1987 reported the genetic analysis giving rise to the Eve hypothesis. Others on the team were Dr. Linda Vigilant, now also of Penn State, and Dr. Rebecca L. Cann of the University of Hawaii. The leader, Dr. Allan C. Wilson of Berkeley, died last year.

The Wilson group examined the mitochondrial DNA in the blood of living people of different races and from different continents.

THE mitochondrion is the part of a cell that converts food into energy for the rest of the cell. Mitochondrial DNA is inherited only from the mother. It is passed down through generations, unaltered by paternal genes, and so is easily traced. Also, mitochondrial DNA is thought to mutate at a rapid and constant rate, making it an accurate evolutionary clock. This assumption is contested by some other scientists.

Last year, Dr. Vigilant and her colleagues reported results that they said provided the "strongest support yet" for a recent African origin of modern humans.

The greater genetic diversity of living Africans, compared with Caucasians and Asians, the biologists said, showed that they are the product of a longer evolutionary lineage. Africans have had more time to create more mutations.

Another geneticist working in this field, Dr. Douglas C. Wallace of Emory University, said the diversity of findings developed by Dr. Vigilant and others constituted one of the most convincing arguments for the Eve hypothesis.

The new statistical criticism, he said, did not change his view that modern humans originated in Africa.

But Dr. Templeton, who dropped the bombshell in February in a brief announcement in the journal Science, said recently that scientists might never be able to resolve the issue of modern human origins.

"There is no computer program that exists today," he said, "that is guaranteed to reconstruct the optimum best tree" to prove the out-of-Africa hypothesis.

Dr. Templeton is preparing a detailed critique for publication later this year in the journal American Anthropologist. In his analysis of current genetic evidence, he said, the timing of modern human origins could range from 100,000 years ago to one million.

The weakness in the Wilson group's analysis, Dr. Templeton said, lay in how the biologists used the genetic data to construct a family tree. Their computer program processed the data to find the most parsimonious tree, one based on the fewest assumptions and genetic mutations.

As Dr. Templeton pointed out, there could be millions of equally plausible trees, and the tree used was only one of these. The one selected depended on the order in which the data were introduced and analyzed.

He also faulted the results because the trees generated were only for mitochondrial DNA, not for populations of humans. One strand of genetic evolution cannot be assumed to reveal the total evolutionary picture of a species.

Right now, there's no statistical evidence supporting the African origin of the mitochondrial DNA we are studying," Dr. Templeton said. "Even if that was proven, it still does not prove that modern humans necessarily originated in Africa."

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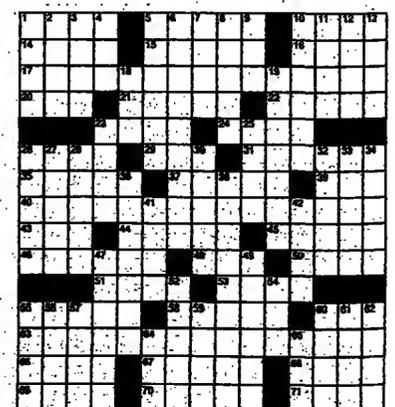
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Solution to Puzzle of May 20

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- 2 Irish Rose's man 3 Name in perfume 4 Yensel people 5 Soft shoe leathers 6 One mentioned in a will 7 Man of essays 8 Italian tenor Beniamino 9 Numerical suffix 10 Pops on the chart 11 " — Rhythm" 12 Mother of Artemis 13 Minus 14 Hurry 15 "The — of Young Werther" Goethe novel 16 Fleming creation 17 Emphatic denial 18 Gershwin, for one 19 Author Jong 20 Ancient Iranians 21 Any dominating group 22 Resident of the Fox Islands 23 Vienna delicacy 24 Kuwaili ruler 25 Yellowhammer State 26 Comatose 27 List extender 28 Ice particles 29 Grows used to — evil 30 Finland, to Finns 31 U.N. arm 32 Omk 33 Italian super 34 Decipher 35 Story hard in Britain 36 Bowery inhabitant 37 Give — up (help) 38 Pablow 39 Product of a scale insect 40 Something thrown in anger

# Be Treated

ffects on the risk of breast cancer, the fact that American women most fear.

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Hip fractures result in fatal complications in 15 to 20 percent of elderly women who suffer them. Women who take estrogen replacement sustain 40 percent fewer hip fractures than those who do not take the hormone.

By far the highest death rates among postmenopausal changes in the elderly are cardiovascular. After a decline in estrogen, many women experience a rise in blood levels of triglycerides, LDL-cholesterol and a decline in HDL-cholesterol.

This and other cardiovascular changes contribute to a sharp rise in heart attacks. Without any treatment, women's coronary mortality rates double within 15 to 20 years of menopause. With the hormone, their risk of dying of heart attack at any age may be reduced 50 percent, several major studies have indicated.



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# Challenged

The weakness in the group's analysis, Dr. Templeton said, lay in how the biologists used the genetic data to construct a tree. Their computer program processed the data to find the most parsimonious tree, one that made the fewest assumptions and produced the simplest result.

As Dr. Templeton points out, there could be millions of equally plausible trees, and the one selected depended on the method which the data were analyzed.

He also faulted the computer program because the trees generated were for mitochondrial DNA, not for the nuclear DNA. Mitochondrial genetic evolution cannot be used to reveal the total picture of a species.

"Right now, there's no scientific evidence supporting the African origin of the mitochondria," Dr. Templeton is studying. Dr. Templeton says, "Even if that was proven, it would not prove that modern humans actually originated in Africa."

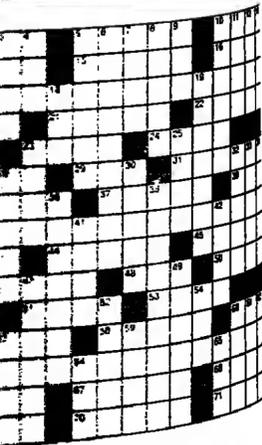


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# Herald Tribune

## Repression in Bangkok

### Betraying His Country

Apologists for last year's military coup in Thailand argued that it was benign, even constructive. The democratic government it ousted was clearly corrupt. The technocrats it appointed to office were intelligent, honest and competent. And the coup's mastermind, General Suchinda Kraprayoon, solemnly promised that he would never take political power into his own hands. But constructive coups are as rare in real life as unicorns. Today, General Suchinda runs Thailand as his unselected prime minister. He has brought back corruption and suffocated democratic government. Worst of all, he has ordered his troops to fire their M-16s at pro-democracy demonstrators. Scores have been shot in Bangkok. Protests have spread to other cities and the death toll climbs.

It is up to Thai leaders, especially King Bhumibol Adulyadej, to resolve this crisis by re-establishing democratic rule. The United States can also play a useful role. Already it has suspended most forms of cooperation with this bloodstained regime. Now it needs to denounce General Suchinda in the strongest terms.

Words matter in Thailand, especially

when Washington is their source. Bangkok will go to considerable lengths to avoid jeopardizing its military and economic links to the United States. Several weeks ago, for example, the Bush administration eliminated a proposed prime minister from further consideration when it denounced him as a suspected drug figure and therefore ineligible to travel to the United States. Surely Americans regard shooting peaceful demonstrators to be as repulsive as drug dealing. Declaring General Suchinda persona non grata could spur his departure or a face-saving compromise.

Chamlong Srimuang, the leader of the current protests, is a former general. But in two terms as governor of Bangkok he earned respect for decency, competence and devotion to democratic ideals. Those ideals are now supported by many in the urban middle and working classes.

Until recently, Thailand seemed poised for further economic gains. Now it risks being dragged down into turmoil. By putting personal ambition ahead of Thailand's best interests, General Suchinda has betrayed the rhetoric of his own coup. And he has betrayed his country.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

### Troops Fire on Citizens

Another Asian military regime, in an implicit confession of moral and political bankruptcy, is sending its troops into the streets to fire on citizens demonstrating for democracy. This time a confrontation of official power and popular urgency is cresting in Thailand. Dozens have been killed, hundreds wounded and thousands detained as the military dictator, General Suchinda Kraprayoon, who made a coup last year and, although unselected, had himself named prime minister last month, clings to power.

The military has held the commanding heights in Thailand for 60 years. In the Cold War period, a case of sorts could be made that the country's threatening circumstances required, or at least made useful, a strong hand at the helm. It mattered, too, in recent years that military rule seemed not incompatible with economic growth. But with the defusing of regional tensions and the burgeoning of an educated middle class, the army's rationale for power has diffused, and a strong civilian claim to power has been validated. Also, the military establishment

got carelessly greedy, both institutionally and personally. These are the conditions in which a retired general turned ascetic, Chamlong Srimuang, became a national spokesman for democracy and the battle against corruption. Leader of the current demonstrations, he is now under arrest.

The United States has lived comfortably with military rule in Thailand for many decades, especially during the Vietnam War, when Thai support for American regional purposes was highly prized. More recently, Washington has sought to display in Thailand some of the same devotion to democratic values that it has asserted in less strategic places; it suspended aid, for instance, at last year's coup. Still, the latest events caught the American government in the embarrassing circumstances of conducting joint military exercises with the Thai army. Too many Americans have seen economics-oriented authoritarian rule in such places as Thailand as an accepted and acceptable state of affairs. There never should have been any doubt, in the armed forces or among the Thai public, about whose side Washington was on.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

## Two Shots, From Behind

Pathologists who performed the autopsy on John Kennedy now reaffirm that he was struck by two rifle shots from the rear. By organizing and publishing this statement of a key finding of the Warren Commission, *The Journal of the American Medical Association* has performed a service for reasonable people and reason.

Heated claims of conspiracy endure even after three decades; the clamor will probably never end entirely. But this basic physical evidence survives and, to all those willing to listen, it offers proof against paranoia.

All that Dr. James Humes and Dr. Thornton Boswell conclude is that the president's wounds did not and do not lie. A bruise at the rear of the neck signifies a bullet's entry. The "beveling" or angle of the bone fracture at the back of the skull makes clear the direction of the bullet that blew away the side of the president's head. It is like deducing the direction of a BB shot from its path through a pane of glass, small at the entry point and coming out at the other side.

Conspiracy buffs remain free to contend all they please that other would-be assassins fired (and missed) in Dallas on that terrible day in November 1963. Or that Lee Harvey Oswald was only the point man in a conspiracy involving gangsters or Cubans or even all the high officials named by the character "X" in the Oliver Stone movie "JFK."

Jim Garrison, the New Orleans prosecutor whose relentless pursuit of a conspiracy is glorified in the film, knew of this evidence and its clarity. So did the jury that swiftly acquitted Clay Shaw, the businessman whom Mr. Garrison falsely accused of conspiracy. The Stoen film omitted this evidence from its portrayal of the trial.

For these and other reasons, it makes considerable sense for the federal government to declassify and publish reams of still secret information. Students of the assassination who are neither hysterical nor paranoid believe that there is still much to learn about the assassin and about the actions of intelligence agencies. Congress is proceeding wisely to create a commission for that purpose. To be credible, that commission must have the power to override the resistance of intelligence agencies.

Yet the Bush administration has opposed and even threatened to veto a bill moving in both houses. Why? Because the White House insists that Congress respect the president's ultimate authority over secrets. Would that George Bush understood as clearly as the medical journal how much more important it is to satisfy the public's rightful quest for the rest of the John Kennedy assassination story. Frustrating it will only feed the flames of suspicion.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## Other Comment

### In Bangkok as in Beijing?

The Thai government of Prime Minister Suchinda Kraprayoon seems to be proudly copying the Chinese in the way it is putting down its political enemies. What is happening in Bangkok resembles the bloody events around Tiananmen Square in Beijing three years ago. The military does not only fire warning shots over the heads of government opponents but also aims its shots at the crowd. The army has confirmed what the population has been claiming for a long time: In reality, Thailand has a military government again, even if the general at its head is no longer active in the armed forces. Many those who stood up against General Suchinda might have been satisfied if he had at least had a parliamentary mandate.

—Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung.

The demonstrators are fighting against what they see as manifold betrayals by General Suchinda: his decision to accept the premiership after saying he would not; his inclusion in the cabinet of members not known for their honesty in the Chaitchai Choonhavan government, which he overthrew because of its alleged corruption; and, lastly, his reneging on a pledge to allow constitutional amendments that would make it necessary for the premier to be elected. However, it would be unrealistic to believe that the opposition politicians who are

using the crowds to make these points against General Suchinda are fighting to defend political principles and not political interests — their own. There is a great deal of self-serving politicking going on in Thailand, in which the opposition is implicated as much as anyone else. What is tragic is that all the parties involved in the current conflict may see reason before too much damage is done. The first to benefit from stability and continued growth would be the Thais themselves.

—The Jakarta Post.

The notion that economic freedoms can flourish without democracy is once again being tested to death, this time in Bangkok, capital of one of the world's most rapidly growing economies. General Suchinda has chosen to send in the troops rather than accede to popular demand that he stand down as prime minister. He has merely set the stage for further and probably more violent confrontations, jeopardizing Thailand's economic transformation.

—The Times (London).

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# The Wordy West Fiddles While Ex-Yugoslavia Burns

By Jenonne Walker

WASHINGTON — As horror unfolds in Bosnia, Western leaders deplore the violence but avoid serious action. The State Department spokesman says she is "not aware of" any American security interest at stake, while European Community foreign ministers schedule consideration of economic sanctions for mid-June. This is a green

not only to ensure that humanitarian aid gets through but also to prevail over the thugs terrorizing the country.

But that is only the first step and not necessarily the hard part. To ensure more than a temporary truce, the West must also find ways to protect the human rights of Serbs living in an independent Croatia or Bosnia.

Western governments must also do everything possible to keep ethnic tensions in other countries from getting to this point.

They must first stop confusing the status quo with stability, and instead provide peaceful means of change.

The United States, Canada and Europe have made impressive commitments in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe on how governments should treat their citizens, including minorities. Those standards should be expanded to include peaceful means of resolving secessionist claims, including acceptance of third-party involvement in internal disputes and the results of internationally organized referendums.

But fine words save few lives. A panel of international jurists should monitor minority grievances. Diplomatic and economic sanctions should be imposed on governments that violate minority rights — before passion overwhelms any calculation of national self-interest. And an outside military force should be put on the ground before fighting starts and while mediation efforts proceed — or now in Macedonia.

Perhaps most important, multilateral forces need a mandate to keep peace, not just observe it so long as it lasts. A military force unwilling to fight is a poor deterrent.

All this must be done together. Merely preventing violence defends the status quo. None of this will be painless, safe or cheap. Economic sanctions will hurt the innocent as well as the guilty, but surely the innocent would suffer less than they now are in Bosnia.

It is hard to separate hostile groups when they are mixed street by street, but Americans do not take that as reason not to use soldiers to quell urban violence in their own cities.

Getting serious about peacekeeping will mean putting American soldiers at risk, sometimes under non-American command and in

situations that do not directly threaten us. It may also mean leaving them there for a long slog, without a decisive victory.

Enforcing embargoes, getting humanitarian aid to the innocent, expanding the concept of peacekeeping — all will cost money. But the share of the United States would be a lot less than it now spends keeping combat divisions sitting in Germany.

It was a sad day when Russia joined America's NATO allies in a United Nations decision for Yugoslavia while Washington declined even token participation. Why do we need American troops in Europe if they are not going to be used for real security problems?

America alone cannot avert future Yugoslavians, but nothing can be done without American leadership and active participation. Europe's peace is far more threatened by ethnic and other tensions within states than by aggression across borders. If America still wants to remain a power there, it cannot be absent without leave — AWOL.

The writer, a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, contributed this comment to *The New York Times*.

## Why do we need American troops in Europe if they are not going to be used for real security problems?

light to more killing in the Balkans and to future aggressors everywhere.

Serbian assets should be frozen immediately. Serbia's planes should be denied international landing rights. And a total military and economic embargo should be enforced except for humanitarian assistance.

The United States should offer to join a greatly beefed-up international military force.

# Outsiders Watch America Respond to the Los Angeles Question

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — Americans can usually count on the French to point out our flaws. In the matter of the Los Angeles riots they have not failed us.

The president and the prime minister of France have helpfully noted in interviews in Paris that the burning, looting and killing in Los Angeles were the product of American political and social choices, not isolated occurrences. Alarmed commentary in the French media amplified the message of American folly.

Since the time of Charles de Gaulle, much French criticism of America has been knee-jerkism practiced by a people and their politicians who define their national identity by resisting the American model. They dispute, they oppose, they differ — therefore, they exist. Descartes knew his people well.

But it is dangerous to dismiss the French with our own jerk of the knee. For all the tendentious sermonizing, sometimes the French have harsh but valuable messages that only they will deliver. Frequently they bark out what many other nations will only whisper.

It is too early to tell if this is the case in the aftermath of Los Angeles. With America's political and social responses to the riots still taking shape, foreigners cannot know what the long-term meaning of the riots will be, for us or for them.

But the subdued, oblique and openly embarrassed responses that foreign visitors offer when they see the riots — they respond as if I had just mentioned a death in the immediate family — suggests that they see Los Angeles as an important tragedy in our national life, with long-lasting fallout.

That sense pervades François Mitterrand's May 1 statement on French

radio describing Los Angeles as "a racial and a social conflict all in one" happening in a country where "there is an absence of social legislation and protection." America, he noted "is a conservative society, with a free market economy, and we see some of the results" of conservative neglect in the Los Angeles strife.

The French president skirted close to portraying Los Angeles as a kind of cultural calamity for the United States — a brutal wake-up call that will either shake America into action or poison the nation if nothing is done about this disaster.

Whatever his intention, Mr. Mitterrand's intervention in American domestic matters spurred Secretary of State Jim Baker into immediate action. Mr. Baker, the architect of George Bush's 1988 electoral victory, dispatched a blistering cable to

French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas asking, in effect, whose side Mr. Mitterrand was on anyway.

Mr. Dumas has been trying to un-ruffle the Bush and Baker feathers ever since, first in a conciliatory response to Mr. Baker and then during a visit to Washington last week, without retreating by even a comma from what Mr. Mitterrand said.

Mr. Mitterrand's comment "was made in the heat of the moment," Mr. Dumas said over breakfast at the residence of French Ambassador Jacques Andreani here the other day. "It described the social context of the problem, and did not in any way put into doubt the respect President Mitterrand feels for President Bush."

Mr. Bush and Mr. Baker are inclined to treat Mr. Dumas's explanation as an apology and to move on. It is in their short-term interests to do

so rather than give continued prominence to criticisms of their domestic policies by a foreign head of state. But Americans should not brush off Mr. Mitterrand's basic point solely because it was uttered with a French accent, or because Mr. Mitterrand was grudging his own political art.

The French president meant to draw a sharp contrast between France's generous social welfare policies and America's survival-of-the-fittest ethos. With tensions growing in and around France's Arab and Asian ghettos, he was restating his doctrine that "it won't happen here" as long as they stick with the Socialists.

That is part of the traditional French-American game. But there are enough parallels between Mr. Mitterrand and his President Bush.

Mr. Bush and Mr. Baker are inclined to treat Mr. Dumas's explanation as an apology and to move on. It is in their short-term interests to do

social cohesion to raise some fundamental questions about how the rest of the world sees America today.

Diversity, we have long argued to the Japanese and other uncomprehending foreigners, is a key to American strength, not a fatal weakness. Our system turns diverse national, ethnic and racial groups into Americans and draws new strength from the process.

That has been received to be true for two centuries. The violence of Los Angeles asks in direct, embarrassing fashion if Americans still see diversity as a source of strength, or as an insurmountable problem to be contained by force.

As we Americans debate what to do about Los Angeles, we should recall that the whole world is watching. The immediate test of America's ambition to maintain world leadership is occurring today not in Berlin and Seoul but in California's City of Angels.

The Washington Post.

# The Official Rhetoric So Far Hasn't Been Serious

By William Pfaff

SOUTH BEND, Indiana — In a speech both unctuous and, to a university audience, condescending, George Bush told the University of Notre Dame Commencement on Sunday that family values create social stability, and that "government is simply not enough" to instill those values.

This unexceptionable argument was delivered in terms suggesting that government scarcely has a role at all in America's social crisis, and that President Bush himself is little more than a concerned-bystander. After what has happened in Los Angeles, it was a strange performance.

It was above all strange when Daniel Patrick Moynihan was also on the platform, being honored by Notre Dame. In accepting the university's Lacture Medal, the Democratic senator from New York spoke succinctly about the ghetto family in America, a subject on which he has been a prophetic analyst as well as an advocate of policies much attacked from left and right for the challenge they have posed to the self-serving assumptions of activists and politicians.

He said that cohort after cohort of

American black males have reached maturity deprived of firm male role models and stable family circumstances, without trades or useful education, with no reasonable prospect of meaningful employment — without "man's work" to do, as Paul Goodman put it more than 30 years ago. He said that these "national leaders" who allowed this have invited the conditions that now prevail in big cities.

Those programs to strengthen families and provide training and employment to the black underclass that were established under Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon (in both of whose governments Mr. Moynihan served) were deliberately neglected or dismantled under the Reagan and Bush administrations. Mr. Bush enjoys virtue without practicing it.

The riots in Los Angeles have changed the political dialogue in the United States, making social policy an unexpectedly serious electoral issue. Polls indicate substantial public support — indeed, public demand — for new measures to deal with the problems of the black underclass. There is a new, tangible spirit of goodwill in the country today.

But goodwill is not enough. It simply is not serious for Mr. Bush to tell a Notre Dame audience which is overwhelmingly white, middle-class and Roman Catholic that family stability is a good thing. What news is that? What responsible point is made by saying it while doing little at the federal level to support the family?

The problem of the black underclass is rooted in the 250-year practice of slavery in America and in the century of quasi-official racial segregation and oppression that followed Emancipation. The underclass thus produced was, with the civil rights legislation of the 1960s, offered a promise of escape from racial discrimination and the poverty that overwhelmingly were part of the black condition. Those who could seize this opportunity did so and escaped the ghetto.

During the Reagan and Bush administrations, however, the United States has seemed to say to those who failed to escape that the fault is theirs; they have given their chance.

The principal public preoccupation has become the attempt to assure the security of those outside the ghettos — overwhelmingly white — from the depredations of rootless and violent young black men. This effort has not been very successful, so that American cities today, their shops, offices, apartments and homes, must be fortified

and patrolled in a manner that suggests an urban America under siege.

As for the black poor left behind, the rest of us step over their ragged persons in downtown Los Angeles, on Connecticut Avenue and in Georgetown in Washington, and on Madison and Fifth Avenues in New York — avoiding eye contact, glancing over our shoulders, ignoring their requests for spare change and limping on.

On the political right it is contended that desolation and misery for some is an essential discipline of the market, a matter in which race is of no intrinsic significance and where interference would distort the market's ultimate beneficence. On the left the desolate are offered advocacy but are also treated either as a class phenomenon — again, apart from race — or as if their condition were a career decision or life-style choice.

It is politically incorrect to say the poor are poor — blighted, miserable, derelict — since this might seem condescending and damaging to their self-esteem; they are described as economically challenged, and called "street people." Churches enjoy us to respect the street people. You and I are home or apartment people; they are street people. To each according to his taste.

The New Republic, which still claims to be a progressive magazine, proposes as the "rational" solution to the crisis of the ghetto the "elimination of all federal welfare programs and their replacement with a single program offering a government-guaranteed job to anyone who will work. As it is a fundamental characteristic of the ghetto that a large part of its population is incapable of working, for good reasons or bad, this plan is let-the-rest-perish with a vengeance.

No new stroke of policy will elevate the underclass. That "magic bullet" solutions which actually would further impoverish the poorest in society are seriously proposed, while many Republicans, including the vice president, continue to explain the Los Angeles drives as Lyndon Johnson's fault, offers one toward the conclusion that America's political class today, as a whole, is incapable of a serious response to the racial crisis.

There will be no reconciliation between the races other than by patient, pragmatic, long-term programs to bring the black underclass to something approaching full participation in productive society. Even now, with concern pronounced on all sides, there is little sign that this actually will be attempted.

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## Clinton Has Only Seven Weeks Left

By David S. Broder

WASHINGTON — Bill Clinton is in a jam. Neither George Bush nor Kent Bricker worry-free, but Mr. Clinton has the most work to do in the shortest available time.

The problem is not so much that the Arkansas governor runs third in current polls behind President Bush and industrial-billionaire Perot. Superficially at least, the margins are not insuperable. And the election is almost six months away.

Mr. Bush has to come up with some kind of response to the Los Angeles riots. He is squaring under the necessity of mucking about in domestic policy, which has never been a comfortable area for him.

Mr. Perot has had a wonderful run as the cracker-barrel commentator on the failings of both parties' political establishments. Millions of disillusioned voters love it when he gives Washington hell. But now he is near the point where he has to begin to define himself — to pick a running mate and a set of broad principles on which to run.

Still, Mr. Clinton's task is more urgent and daunting.

If you are the Democratic challenger, the weeks leading up to your nominating convention are the time when you have to consolidate your base for the autumn campaign. There are more nominal Democrats than Republicans. Republican general election campaigns are designed to split the Democratic coalition and peel off dissident or weak Democrats. If the Democratic nominee does not have those folks at least temporarily corralled by midsummer, he has little chance of withstanding the defections of the fall.

When Jimmy Carter ran against

of a state's votes in a three-way race. Unless the governor can find some way to upgrade his standing — and prospects — dramatically between now and the July 13 opening of the Democratic convention in Madison Square Garden, the story line for convention week coverage inevitably will become: Will the Democrats jettison Clinton?

Realists recognize that even in a year as unpredictable as this one, the man who comes into the convention having won most of the primaries and more than half the delegates is unlikely to have the nomination snatched away from him. But that is not the real threat.

The concern for Mr. Clinton must be that reporters working the delegations will find local party officials and candidates for everything from sheriff to senator cutting themselves loose from the presidential nominee.

Even in his hour of triumph in Atlanta four years ago, Mr. Dukakis was damaged by the rumbles from Democratic convention delegates from almost all the South, much of the Midwest and the entire Mountain States region that he just wasn't connecting with their voters. You could write — and many of us did — that even when the national polls showed Mr. Dukakis ahead of Mr. Bush, it looked doubtful that he could assemble a majority in the Electoral College.

Mr. Clinton faces far bleaker convention week coverage, unless he can improve his situation dramatically in the next seven weeks. Mr. Perot and Mr. Bush have plenty of problems and vulnerabilities of their own, but they have more time to work their way past the hazards.

The Washington Post.

President Gerald Ford in 1976, he had a 33-point lead at the time of the Democratic convention and held on to win by 2 percentage points. In 1988, Michael Dukakis had a 17-point lead at convention time, but lost by 8 points.

Mr. Carter and Mr. Dukakis built up those early leads by rolling up sizable victories over remaining foes in most of the May and early June primaries. Mr. Clinton has been trouncing Jerry Brown, but there is no sign of consolidation. A CNN-Time magazine poll shows him with only 41 percent of the sampled Democrats in a trial heat against Mr. Bush and Mr. Perot.

Mr. Perot is clearly a big part of Mr. Clinton's problem, for he has stolen the spotlight at a time when Mr. Clinton needs to get at least the Democrats to take a second look at him. The problem is acute. Mr. Perot is expected to make his formal declaration of candidacy and perhaps reveal the choice of his running mate late next month. If he does, he could easily eclipse the normal buildup that the Democratic challenger receives in the weeks leading up to the mid-July Democratic convention.

Mr. Perot has the potential to change the whole story line for that convention in a way that could be crippling to Mr. Clinton's credibility. Current polls show Mr. Clinton running third, not only in national trial heats but in many of the individual states that a Democrat must carry in order to have any hope of gaining the White House. It is not rare to see polls showing him receiving barely more than a quarter

## IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

### 1892: Palacio's Wrath

NEW YORK — The Herald's Venezuelan news has been furnished by the Herald's correspondent on the spot, and everything the Herald said has been confirmed by passengers of the Red D Line steamers, President Palacio's own bulletins and by mail advices received by merchants in this city. President Palacio has just expelled from Venezuela the correspondent of the New York Recorder, and has offered a generalship in the army to the person who discovers the identity of the Herald's correspondent, as he wants to expel him also.

### 1942: 'Sixth Columnists'

WASHINGTON — [From our New York edition:] Former President Herbert Hoover said last night [May 19] that if the United States is to win this total war, President Roosevelt must be invested with "dictatorial economic powers," and he described such powers as those of "just plain Fascist economics." However, asserting that economic dictatorship must not encroach upon civil liberties, Mr. Hoover advocated more freedom for "sixth columnists" to discuss the war and criticize Washington's methods of conducting it. "And criticism of the conduct of the war is necessary if we are to win the war," Mr. Hoover added. "We want the war conducted right. Democracy can correct mistakes only through public exposure and opposition to them."

### 1917: Regent for Poland

ZURICH — A telegram from Berlin states that in the course of the war council yesterday [May 19] at German Headquarters, the constitution of the Government of Poland and the appointment of a Regent were definitely decided upon. The Regent will certainly be Archduke Charles



OPINION

When Government Spins Money in a Closed Circle

By George F. Will

WASHINGTON—With the tide of anti-indebted sentiment rising higher and higher, Washington's hands stop trembling only when Washington is spinning its hands in unforgotten honor about the coming constitutional amendment to require a balanced budget. A sufficient reason for ratifying the amendment is the horror it inspires in the political class that has transformed American democracy into a dictatorship.

That word was coined by James L. Payne, a scholar who has taught at Yale, Johns Hopkins and elsewhere. He asked a simple question and in answering it came up with some stunning statistics that he reported in The Public Interest quarterly two years ago—and nothing much has changed since then. The question was: Why do members of the House of Representatives and the Senate support so many spending programs? One reason, he found, is that almost no one testifies against spending.

He analyzed the testimony of 1,060 witnesses on 14 hours of proposed spending. 39 were neutral (they testified about something else) and 1,014 favored spending. This 145-to-1 ratio reflects Washington's inbred persuasion process. Mr. Payne says that people suppose, because democratic theory teaches that Congress responds primarily to individuals and groups "out there," beyond the Beltway. Not so. "Overwhelmingly, Congress's views on spending programs are shaped by government officials themselves."

Of the 1,060 witnesses Mr. Payne studied, 47 percent federal administrators, 10 percent state or local government officials, and 6 percent U.S. senators or representatives testifying to colleagues. So 63 percent represented government acting as an interest group. "Another 33 percent were lobbyists for groups purporting to be, and generally perceived to be, private-sector institutions. But, Mr. Payne says, many of these groups are 'semi-governmental entities.' Often their leaders are former government officials socialized in government's benign view of its own motives and competence.

Furthermore, many of these groups are extensions of government in that they receive government contracts and grants. He cites the National Council of Children, the National Education Association, the League of Women Voters, the Sierra Club and other environmental groups.

Government's peculiar persuasion process also includes billions of government dollars spent hiring consultants to evaluate government programs or to need for programs. These consultants are not famous for frowning on the work of the government agencies that hire them; more than the agencies themselves, they are paid to praise government programs.

Ugly word. Ugly fact. Good reason for a balanced budget amendment. Washington Post Writers Group.



Letters to the Editor

Shun Ethnic Nationalists

With the breakup of Communist governments, the world is experiencing an unprecedented reorganization and birth of new nations. Unfortunately, there is a dominant trend to define the new nation-states throughout Eastern Europe along ethnic lines. This has immediately resulted in severe internal conflicts, to the point of civil wars in Yugoslavia and the former Soviet Union.

The newly born Baltic states as well as Armenia and Azerbaijan are moving to exclude ethnic Russians from citizenship. In each case, differentiation between those who belong to the newly formed national entity and those who are to be excluded is based on ethnic or religious affiliation.

These nascent nations are importing the developed nations to support their development and implicitly endorse their "racial" definition. Despite their nationalization of ethnic bias, they are seeking both economic and "humanitarian" aid. We should be supporting real democracy or merely subsidizing the dominant ethnic majority?

The countries being born from the ashes of communism need to realize that history teaches that ethnic definition of national boundaries precludes growth as players in the international community.

Why should the United States and the European Community not move to impede the growth of nations that will be based on religion or ethnic purity, for example by denying favored trade status or financial support to such nations? Should not the EC adopt a policy denying membership to countries defined by ethnically restrictive laws? In these positive ways, the free world can influence human rights in those nations purporting to join the community of free world countries. It may be impossible to stop individual prejudice, but perhaps we can discourage and inhibit institutional, specifically national, prejudice.

WILLIAM CURTIS CONNER Jr., Paris.

Yes, Threaten Belgrade

Regarding "Threaten Milosevic With the Slobodan Treatment" (Opinion, April 27) by Anthony Lewis: As the fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina escalates, it becomes once again clear that external pressure is the only thing that can check Serbian aggression.

And so, as Anthony Lewis suggests in his article, give Belgrade an ultimatum: Withdraw your troops, halt this aggression upon your neighbors, or prepare for a military strike yourselves. Even the threat of such action will probably show up Mr. Milosevic for the coward he is.

JON E. ENGAHL, Idaho-Oberstein, Germany.

A Truly Global Network

How does the world respond when a repressive regime raises the self-serving argument that foreign journalists are meddling in its affairs and must be expelled? Why not call upon the United Nations to establish a globally minded, objective network that embraces television, newspapers and radio? Think of it: News 24 hours a day along nonpartisan, nonregional, non-trade-bloc lines, in the spirit of the UN Charter.

Could a government question the objectivity of a UN-sponsored news network? For their part, mess with the UN reporters and you risk sanctions. UNN, the United Nations Network, could produce movies with global themes. UN-label compact discs and tapes would feature promising young artists from around the world or deal with global issues like AIDS and birth control. The danger, of course, would be...

PHIL LUBOFF, Secaucus, France.

Italy: Getting Ahead in Life By the Coloratura Principle

By John Navone

ROME—It is no accident that Italy's presidential election has been described as comic opera. After all, Italians invented opera. If symphonic music, where conformity is valued, order is important and rules are many, symbolizes the dynamics of German society, opera best symbolizes the Italian way of being in the world together with all others.

Just as *bel canto* expresses the Italian ideal of looking good, *bel canto* expresses the Italian ideal of sounding good. Beauty in both appearance and sound is all part of making a good impression.

The coloratura principle—improvisation, is at the heart of Italian life. Coloratura—the extemporaneous decoration of vocal melody in the form of runs, roulades and cadenzas—demands the ability to improvise. The composer leaves the improvisation to the skills and imagination of the singer. Italians envision their lawmakers as composers who presume their genius and skill for improvisation.

The lawmaker, like the composer, does not specify everything. General guidelines should suffice for people with a genius for improvisation. The coloratura principle vexes and bewilders people of a legalistic, legal-minded and fundamentalist cultural background. Opera is historic or theatrical. Even in the recitativo, you do not speak; you declaim. The Italian language is not meant to be spoken; it was created by people who declaim for people who declaim. Northern Europeans criticize Italians for being loud because they assume that languages are exclusively for speaking. But if life is opera, as it is for Italians, everybody on stage and in the audience has to hear you; otherwise, life/opera does not work.

If life is theatrical, to be is to be performing. Life is not so much action as acting. The only real statement is overstatement! If there is going to be any opera at all, someone has to be center stage; the prima donna. Significantly, it is a woman who acts as the organizing principle for both the music drama that is opera and the drama of Italian life.

Mamma is not only chronologically but also psychologically the prima donna ("first lady"), the focus of Italian life, secular and sacred. The mother of Jesus, the Madonna, is central to Italian religious life. Life without mamma—the prima donna both in heaven and on earth—is inconceivable. The quintessential Italian (favoring of melody) in opera expresses the demand that life be beautiful. Its disparate elements must be integrated, composed and harmonized. Melody expresses the Italian quest for simplicity and harmony within the welter of human complexity, based on the assumption that the only simplicity that counts is that which results from mastering complexity. The good opera/life entails the ability to orchestrate complexity according to some freely chosen melody/plot line.

Many of the most melodious Italian operas were written when Italy was dominated by foreign powers and ransacked by invading armies. The ability to create melodic operas in those times of adversity suggests some pre-conceptual simplicity that counts is that which results from hearing of "best-kept voices," inspiring Italians with the hope of working through the all-encompassing chaos. Where there is melody there is hope.

Verdi's stirring, youthful music became a symbol of the Italian people's desire for freedom, but it was also because of its fervor, melodiousness and dramatic power that "Nabucco" was performed not only in Italy but also within a decade in cities as far afield as Berlin, Constantinople, St. Petersburg and London. As chaotic as Italian life and politics appear to foreign observers, Italy has consistently made progress since the end of World War II to become the world's fifth industrial power, in a way that combines all the befuddling and amazing qualities of grand opera.

The Reverend John Navone, S.J., is professor of biblical theology at the Gregorian University in Rome. He contributed this comment to the Herald Tribune.

Slavia Burns

situations that do not directly threaten us may also mean leaving them there for a long, without a decisive victory. Enforcing embargoes, getting international aid to the innocent, expanding the concept of peacekeeping—all will cost more than it now spends keeping combatants sitting in Germany.

Los Angeles Question

acial cohesion to raise some fundamental questions about how the world is changing. The Japanese and other nations are sending foreigners, a key to the system, turns diverse nationalities and racial groups into Americans. The new strength from the past for two centuries. The violent fashion of Americans still are a source of strength, or an insurmountable problem to be solved by force.

It's Been Serious

and patrolled in a manner that is a fact in urban America under the rule of the black left. The streets of Los Angeles are in the hands of the black left. The streets of Los Angeles are in the hands of the black left. The streets of Los Angeles are in the hands of the black left.

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**JUNE 24**

- 09.00 OPENING ADDRESS: Dr. Wolfgang Schüssel, Minister of Economic Affairs, Austria
- 09.45 ENERGY DEMAND - ITS CHANGING SIZE & STRUCTURE: Prof. Dr. Subrata, Secretary General, OPEC, Vienna
- 11.00 Coffee
- 11.30 ENERGY SUPPLY - SECURITY & ECONOMICS: Kamble Manick, Head, Int. Assessments Dept., National Iranian Oil Co., Tehran
- 13.00 Lunch
- 14.30 INFRASTRUCTURE - PIPELINES, TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE: Valery Chernyavskiy, President, Gaztransneft, Moscow
- 15.45 Tea
- 16.15 INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL METHODS & SOURCES: Randall B. Fischer, Senior Partner (Energy), Merchant Banking, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, London
- 18.00 Dinner

**JUNE 25**

- 08.30 UPSTREAM - HAZARDS & ATTRACTIVE OF THE REGION: Richard Matzke, President, Chevron Overseas Petroleum Inc., San Francisco
- 10.00 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Dr. Siegfried Mayrhofer, Chairman, DMV A.G., Vienna
- 11.00 DOWNSTREAM - REFINING & MARKETING: Anthony Vicens-Alfaro, Head of Central & East Europe Division, Shell International Petroleum Co. Ltd., London

**JUNE 26**

- 08.30 CORPORATE REORGANIZATION & RESTRUCTURING: Oscar Fergel, Chairman, Repsol S.A., Madrid
- 09.55 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Kadyr K. Baitalov, Deputy Prime Minister, Kazakh Republic
- 10.30 Coffee
- 10.55 FINANCE & INVESTMENT: Dr. Hannes Androsch, President, Androsch International, Vienna
- 12.25 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Eduard Grushevskiy, Deputy Minister of Fuel & Energy, Russia
- 13.00 POLITICAL, LEGAL & JURISDICTIONAL DISPUTES: Prince Alfred von Liechtenstein, President, Akademie für Zukunftstragen, Vienna
- 13.25 Close of Conference
- 13.30 Informal Luncheon

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: The fee for the conference is €795.00. This includes lunches, the cocktail reception and conference documentation. Fees are payable in advance and will be reduced less a €20.00 cancellation charge for any cancellation received in writing on or before June 12, after which time we regret there can be no refund. However, substitutions may be made at any time.

CONFERENCE LOCATION: Vienna Penta Hotel, Ungargasse 60, 1050 Vienna, Austria. Tel: (43 222) 711 75. Fax: (43 222) 71 75 90. To reserve accommodation at a preferential rate please contact the hotel. As the conference coincides with the Vienna Festival, hotel accommodation is likely to be at a premium. We have accordingly reserved a number of rooms at a variety of hotels which can be booked through: CIMA Hotel & Touristik, Janissargasse 27, 1010 Vienna, Austria. Tel: (43 222) 515 58. Fax: (43 222) 512 15 27. Telex 114769.

OFFICIAL AIRLINES: Lufthansa Air and Austrian Airlines.

REGISTRATION FORM: To register for the conference, please complete the form below and send it to: Brenda Hegarty, International Herald Tribune, 63 Long Acre, London WC2E 9LQ, England. Tel: (44 711 836 4802). Fax: (44 711 836 0117).

Enclosed is a check for £795.00 made payable to the International Herald Tribune.  Please invoice.

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21-5-92

# NYSE

Wednesday's Closing  
Prices include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect the trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

Symbol	Price	Change
IBM	112.00	+0.25
MSFT	48.00	+0.12
ORCL	38.00	+0.10
INTL	25.00	+0.05
DISC	22.00	+0.08
WALD	18.00	+0.03
AMZN	15.00	+0.02
GOOG	12.00	+0.01
APPL	10.00	+0.01
MSFT	48.00	+0.12
ORCL	38.00	+0.10
INTL	25.00	+0.05
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WALD	18.00	+0.03
AMZN	15.00	+0.02
GOOG	12.00	+0.01
APPL	10.00	+0.01

**NYSE High-Lows**

Symbol	High	Low
IBM	112.00	111.75
MSFT	48.00	47.88
ORCL	38.00	37.90
INTL	25.00	24.95
DISC	22.00	21.92
WALD	18.00	17.97
AMZN	15.00	14.98
GOOG	12.00	11.99
APPL	10.00	9.99

**AMEX High-Lows**

Symbol	High	Low
IBM	112.00	111.75
MSFT	48.00	47.88
ORCL	38.00	37.90
INTL	25.00	24.95
DISC	22.00	21.92
WALD	18.00	17.97
AMZN	15.00	14.98
GOOG	12.00	11.99
APPL	10.00	9.99

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By Money

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER  
Federated Branches Out  
Into Information Systems

By Stephanie Strom  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — When Federated Department Stores Inc. emerged from bankruptcy protection in February, the born-again company was no longer simply an operator of eight department-store chains. Federated had entered the information-processing business.

Through its Sabre Group (not related to American Airlines' Sabre reservation system), Federated is selling to other retailers the computerized inventory-management and back-office record-keeping service it uses in its own stores. R.H. Macy & Co. has been a Sabre client since 1990, under a contract worth \$6 million a year to Federated.

In an industry that long relied on merchants' creative intuition, but lately finds itself preoccupied with minuscule or nonexistent profit margins, department stores are finding that information technology can help identify which products are selling and warn of which ones may be slowing toward the clearance bins.

"It gives you instant access to information that helps you make judgments about how to run your business, which you never had before," said Glen H. Griffith, chief executive of Sabre, based in Norcross, Georgia.

Federated is by no means the only big U.S. retailer to automate its inventory and sales records. Dillard Department Stores has a similar system of its own, as does May Department Stores Co. and others. But because retailers tend to be extremely proprietary about information their stores generate, companies have tended to run their own systems.

In a move that should help Sabre establish its operation as distinct from Federated, the group recently selected International Business Machines Corp. as its outside vendor. Under the agreement, non-Federated retailers will contract with IBM for the computer hardware and software that will enable them to use the system. So far, Macy is the only outside customer, but Sabre officials say they are courting other retailers.

SABRE centralizes all back-office and inventory-management functions that used to be done on paper by each of Federated's eight divisions. The consolidation should allow Federated to manage inventory more efficiently, analyze sales and speed up the restocking of stores.

The system drastically reduces overlap and allows buyers and managers at, say, Burdine's, to compare that chain's performance with Sterns, Abraham & Straus or any other Federated division. Sabre tracks inventory from the time a purchase order is placed, through the delivery and distribution process until a sale is made. It keeps track of payments through an accounts-payable system, tells a user when a delivery was made and where, and records each and every sale.

By accounting for the inventory before it enters the system, right up until it leaves the system, the company keeps less inventory on hand and marks down less merchandise.

The most informative data comes straight out of the cash register when a sale is made, Mr. Griffith said. By looking at sales information, a buyer knows what's hot and what's not early in the season, reordering merchandise and marking down slow-selling goods accordingly.

Buyers at the Home Mart division can see what is doing well in another division and order some of the merchandise for themselves, or conversely, avoid bad decisions made by colleagues in other parts of the company.

"A large portion of Sabre's 1,000-member staff devote themselves to nothing but keeping the systems current. For example, they installed 'wands' at cash registers that are waved over the universal product codes on all price tags.

Sabre also established direct links to manufacturers and suppliers. Previously, orders were written out and posted and then entered into manufacturers' computers. Now the exchange of order information goes directly from computer to computer.

The technology helps retailers identify what's hot and what's not.

Philip Morris Wins Battle for Tabak

By Roger Cohen  
New York Times Service

PRAGUE — In one of the largest U.S. investments in the former Soviet bloc, Philip Morris Cos. has agreed to pay \$413 million for control of the Czechoslovak cigarette manufacturer Tabak, beating an offer from R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. in a fierce bidding war.

The investment, the largest made by a foreign company in Czechoslovakia after Volkswagen AG's pledge to put \$6.4 billion into the Skoda automobile factory, is indicative of burgeoning U.S. interest in Czechoslovakia. Mart Bakal, a senior U.S. adviser to the Privatization Ministry, said that U.S. companies had committed \$1.4 billion to Czechoslovak investments, most of it in recent months.

Among these investments, he said, were \$89 million by Coca-Cola Co. in the Práznice soft drinks company, K-Mart Corp.'s investment of \$115 million in the Prior & Maj Department Store, Dow Chemical Co.'s \$250 million in the Chemické Závody Sokolov company and Teapek Inc.'s \$27 million in the Cuisinart sausage-casing firm.

Although final contractual details of the Tabak sale are still being hammered out,

officials for Philip Morris and the Czechoslovak Privatization Ministry said there was no doubt it would go through. "It's a done deal," said Louis Camilleri, Philip Morris's vice president for Eastern Europe.

Under the terms, Privatization Ministry officials said, Philip Morris would pay a total of \$226.2 million for 65 percent of the company. This will be divided into an initial investment of \$104.2 million for the first 30 percent, followed by the balance within a year.

Philip Morris will subsequently invest \$187 million in modernization of Tabak and bring its equity stake above 80 percent. The balance will be held by the public.

Earlier reports about the deal had said Philip Morris would take just 30 percent of Tabak, which controls 65.7 percent of the Czechoslovak cigarette market.

The Philip Morris deal, coming after a long period of U.S. hesitation during which German companies plowed \$2.5 billion into the country, appears to reflect a growing conviction that Czechoslovakia offers strong long-term prospects despite current difficulties.

Output plunged 19.5 percent last year and inflation soared to 57.9 percent, but the coun-

Salomon to Pay \$290 Million In Settlement

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Salomon Inc. agreed Wednesday to pay \$290 million to settle U.S. government accusations that the firm systematically submitted billions of dollars in phony bids in during auctions of Treasury bonds.

In a significant victory for Salomon, the government agreed not to bring criminal charges against the firm.

The settlement appeared to be an endorsement of Warren E. Buffett's strategy of quickly agreeing to cooperate with authorities and purging the company of executives involved in the auction. Mr. Buffett is chairman of Berkshire Hathaway Inc., which owns a substantial stake in Salomon, and he was brought in as the brokerage house's interim chairman after the scandal broke.

The penalties represent the second-largest fines ever assessed by securities regulators, trailing those in the Drexel case, but they pose no financial jeopardy to Salomon. Last quarter, it posted a profit of \$190 million and its securities dealership alone holds more than \$2 billion in capital.

Indeed, Wall Street viewed the settlement as a coup for Salomon: its shares jumped after the announcement, rising \$2.87 to a \$33.50 close.

As part of the settlement, the firm will be suspended beginning in June for two months from doing any business with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, which executes the central bank's open-market operations. Following that suspension, the Treasury Department said it would lift sanctions it imposed on the firm last August after the scandal erupted that restricted Salomon from submitting bids for customers in Treasury auctions.

SEC officials said they were moved by the firm's pleas that more severe sanctions could be catastrophic because they would spur regulators in Britain, Japan and Germany to take steps against affiliates of Salomon in those countries.

In its complaint, the commission asserted that Salomon had violated anti-fraud and record-keeping provisions of federal laws by submitting 10 false bids between August 1989 and May 1991 that resulted in the acquisition of more than \$6.2 billion in Treasury securities in violation of the limitations imposed on all firms.

The firm was also accused of failing to supervise the traders who initiated the trades and of issuing misleading news releases in August that did not disclose that executives knew that phony bids had been submitted.

Left unresolved is the fate of former senior executives of the firm, including John H. Gutfreund, its previous chairman.

Fiat to Invest \$2 Billion in Poland

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WARSAW — Fiat SpA agreed on Wednesday to invest around \$2 billion in a new company to be formed with the Polish carmaker FSM, the biggest foreign investment in Poland so far.

The capital of the new company, which will take over FSM's automotive activities, will be \$200 million, of which 90 percent will be taken by Fiat, with the remaining 10 percent retained by the Polish government.

The protocol of agreement, signed by Andrzej Olechowski, the caretaker finance minister of Poland, and Renato Ruggiero, deputy chairman of Fiat, followed years of difficult negotiations.

The final agreement will be signed on May 28, pending approval from the Polish government and the Fiat board.

Guglielmo Capra, chief Fiat negotiator in the FSM talks, said the \$2 billion included the repayment to creditors of about \$800 million invested in the new FSM-produced Cinquecento model, which was launched in December.

"This will have to be repaid to the institutions financing this initiative," he said.

"The remaining \$1 billion concerns all the future investments which will have to be made in the new company to restructure its factories and install machinery to launch a new model, which will replace the 126," he added. The replacement, as yet unspecified, would be produced within the next four years.

FSM has been producing the Fiat-designed 126 model since it was founded as a state-owned company in the 1970s. It recently became a joint stock company in the first step toward privatization.

Fiat said the new company would employ more than 18,000 people and manufacture up to 240,000 Fiat 500s, or Cinquecentos, a year.

"This is an especially joyful moment, because we are signing the biggest-ever foreign investment agreement in Poland," said Prime Minister Jan Olszewski, who attended the signing ceremony.

A Polish negotiator, Zbigniew Piotrowski, said the name of the new company and some details concerning the restructuring of FSM's debt still had to be worked out. He refused to provide any further details.

Fiat has already laid out more than \$500 million for modernizing the FSM plant, based in Bielsko Biala in southern Poland, to make some 160,000 cars a year of the new model.

The new company will become the biggest Fiat production facility outside Italy.

Minister Jan Olszewski, who attended the signing ceremony.

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CURRENCY RATES

Table with columns for Currency, Par \$, and various exchange rates for major currencies like British Pound, Japanese Yen, etc.

Other Dollar Values

Table listing values for various currencies and commodities such as Gold, Silver, and Oil.

Forward Rates

Table showing forward rates for different currencies and time periods.

INTEREST RATES

Table of Eurocurrency Deposits with columns for currency, term, and rate.

Key Money Rates

Table of money rates for various currencies and instruments.

Asian Dollar Deposits

Table of Asian Dollar Deposits with columns for currency, term, and rate.

U.S. Money Market Funds

Table of U.S. Money Market Funds with columns for fund name and rate.

GOLD

Table of gold prices in various locations like London, New York, etc.

Cautiously, U.K. Cheers New Hint of a Recovery

By Erik Ipsen  
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The evidence may still be slim but with figures released on Wednesday showing that retail sales in April had risen 0.8 percent, economists were suddenly prepared to cross their fingers and all but bury Britain's long recession.

"Everything is now in place for an economic recovery in a way that has not been true since the recession began," said Patrick Foley, chief economist at Lloyds Bank. Like many others, Mr. Foley admits that he has not felt so bullish about Britain's growth prospects since the recession began more than 18 months ago.

Even the memory of last autumn, when signs of an economic upturn were blotted out by falls in industrial production and a sudden rise in unemployment, is not enough to chasten most economists.

They point out that the first stirrings of recovery had been enough to cause industry and retailers to boost inventories in anticipation of sales demand that never came.

In fact, some economists talk guardedly about the danger to their forecasts posed by a "positive surprise," of demand briefly threatening to swamp supply and in turn causing a sudden explosion in production to fill the gap. As it is, the government reported on Tuesday that industrial production in the first quarter had risen for the first time since the recession began, albeit by a slim 0.3 percent.

"I think that if next month's retail sales figure is at this level the government may actually begin to worry that the recovery is taking off too rapidly," said Mr. Foley.

O&Y Faces Pressure in Britain Hunt for Assets Raises Bankruptcy Question

By Steven Prokesch  
New York Times Service

LONDON — The chances of Olympia & York Ltd. avoiding a British bankruptcy action appeared to dim on Wednesday as Morgan Stanley & Co. began searching for assets of the Canadian developer that it could seize to settle a legal dispute.

Olympia filed for protection in the United States and Canada last week, unable to service its \$12 billion in debts, but it has been negotiating with creditors to keep its massive Canary Wharf office development in London out of bankruptcy proceedings.

The dispute with Morgan Stanley, the U.S. investment-banking firm, involves 25 Cabot Square, a completed building in Canary Wharf.

Morgan agreed to pay for the building to be constructed and Olympia agreed to buy it for \$240 million and then lease it for another two-thirds of the building's 45,000 square meters (500,000 square feet). Morgan Stanley has contended that the payment should have been made on Dec. 12. Cash-strapped Olympia has argued that it was not due until June 30.

On May 14, hours before Olympia filed for bankruptcy protection from creditors in Canada and the United States, a British appeals court upheld a previous court ruling in Morgan Stanley's favor. After a follow-up hearing Wednesday in the British court, Olympia said it was considering another appeal.

After Wednesday's closed hearing, Olympia said it "understands that no steps are currently being taken to enforce the order" and that Morgan Stanley leaders "are considering their position."

But a person familiar with Morgan Stanley's intentions said the reason it had not asked the court to enforce the ruling was it first wanted to try to find unencumbered assets of Olympia. "They intend to

It's a Coin Whodunit, but Who Knows?

By James Sterngold  
New York Times Service

TOKYO — After 10 years of government leaks and speculation, one of Japan's most intriguing financial whodunits has entered a new chapter.

A lawsuit filed here demands resolution of the mystery: Did the Japanese police uncover the biggest and most well-financed counterfeit operation in history, or instead commit a major blunder by seizing 103,000 genuine gold coins as fake and incorrectly accusing a Briton of dealing in them?

Paul Davies, the British coin dealer at the center of this strange affair, insists that several thousand of the coins confiscated from him two years ago are genuine. In his suit, Mr. Davies demands that the coins be returned, or that he be paid for their full value, plus interest.

The suit is intended to force the police to do something they have failed to do for the last two years — prove the gold coins are indeed counterfeit.

"We cannot comment on what our position will be in court because we have not seen the petition yet," said Akira Ono, deputy director of the Finance Ministry's Treasury division. "But on the question of whether the coins are counterfeit or not, there is no question about it. They are clearly counterfeit."

The mystery first became public in February 1990, when the Finance Ministry said it had

discovered 103,000 counterfeit gold coins. They are said to have appeared among the 11 million special coins the government minted in 1986 and 1987 to commemorate the 60th year of the reign of Emperor Hirohito.

The coins actually served several purposes. They were regarded as a fitting way to mark the

emperor's long rule and Japan's emergence in the 1980s as an economic powerhouse. But they were also a major money-making enterprise.

There was a gold fever in Japan at that time, and the coins, slightly larger than a quarter, stamped on one side, were eagerly snapped up by collectors.

The Finance Ministry took advantage of that fervor by giving each coin a face value of 100,000 yen (about \$778), the price at which they were sold and could be redeemed. But the coins included what was then only about 40,000 yen worth of gold each. That meant the government earned about 60,000 yen on each coin it

sold, a total of some \$5 billion if all went well. The markup also meant that if some clever forger could manage to buy tons of gold, refine it to the unusually pure level of 99.99 percent used by the Japanese government, and mint exact replicas, he or she could also claim these extraordinary profits.

It has been reported, however, that almost a million of the official coins went unsold.

In a news conference in Tokyo on Tuesday, and later in an interview, Mr. Davies said he had been contacted in 1988 by a reputable Swiss coin dealer, asking if he would be interested in purchasing a large number of the coins, and then redeeming them in Japan at the 100,000-yen face value.

Mr. Davies, who lives in England, said he had cultivated the Japanese market over the last decade and that it was his largest source of coin-dealing business.

The Swiss dealer told him that the coins were coming from a Middle Eastern source, who was never identified, but who was reported to be interested in selling about 150,000 of them. United Bank of Switzerland has also said that it agreed to purchase some of the coins from the same dealer and then redeem them in Japan.

From August 1988 through December 1989, Mr. Davies said he redeemed 37,695 of the now-suspect coins in 29 deliveries, all of which were properly declared to customs and the

See COINS, Page 13

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MARKET DIARY

Stocks End Mixed Amid Steady Rates

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks ended mixed Wednesday on disappointment that the Federal Reserve did not move to lower interest rates.

"The driving force for this market continues to be the anticipation that the Federal Reserve will lower interest rates further in the next few weeks," said Ricky Harrington, director of investment policy and investment management at Marico

N.Y. Stocks

Bass Securities in Charlotte, North Carolina. Many traders had expected the Fed to lower rates following the report on Tuesday of a 17 percent plunge in housing starts in April.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which rose 21.96 points on Tuesday, to a record high, fell 4.15 points, to 3,393.84. Blue chips rose to a high of 3,404.34 before computer-guided sell orders knocked them lower, traders said.

"There are an awful lot of people who think this market is running on fumes, without real quality fuel," said Robert Stovall, president of Stovall/Tweedy First Advisers. "The Dow industrials bump their heads against 3,400 and down they go."

Among the broad gauges, the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index slid 0.98, to 415.39. Stocks ended slightly lower on the American

Stock Exchange, but slightly higher in over-the-counter trading. Decliners edged out advancers on the Big Board. Volume totaled 193.5 million shares, up from 187 million on Tuesday.

General Motors paced the Big Board activity, down 1/4 at 39 1/2. The world's largest automaker and a key Dow component announced the start of its global offering of 55 million shares of common stock, which was priced at \$39 a share late Tuesday and increased from 50 million shares planned in the original filing.

Disney followed, down 1/4 at 39 1/2. Limited was third, falling 1/4 to 20 1/2. Oil shares were lower following reports that members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries were expected to agree on an increase in third-quarter production.

Salomon shares jumped 2 1/2, to 33 1/2, after the Securities and Exchange Commission said the company had agreed to pay \$290 million in penalties and related items to settle civil charges that it violated Treasury bidding rules at several securities auctions. Traders said the rise in Salomon reflected heavy buying by short sellers.

Among the blue chips, IBM was down 1/4 at 91 1/4 and Philip Morris was up 1/4 at 77 1/4. Intel led the OTC actives, up 1 1/4 at 48 1/4. (Bloomberg, UPI)

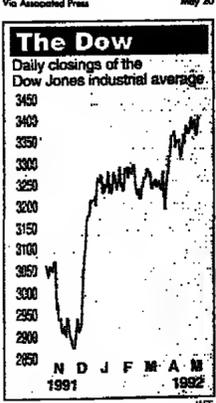


Table with columns: Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg. Lists NYSE Most Active stocks including GM, Disney, and Limited.

Table with columns: High, Low, Close, Chg. Lists AMEX Stock Index and Dow Jones Bond Averages.

Table with columns: High, Low, Close, Chg. Lists Dow Jones Bond Averages for 20 Bonds, 10 Utilities, and 10 Industrials.

Table with columns: High, Low, Close, Chg. Lists Market Sales for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ.

Table with columns: High, Low, Close, Chg. Lists NYSE Most Active stocks.

Table with columns: High, Low, Close, Chg. Lists NYSE Most Active stocks.

Table with columns: High, Low, Close, Prev. Lists NYSE Diary.

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Dow Jones Averages

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Last, Chg. Lists Dow Jones Industrial, Transportation, and Composite averages.

Standard & Poor's Indexes

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Last, Chg. Lists S&P 500, Industrial, and Financial indexes.

NYSE Indexes

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Last, Chg. Lists NYSE Composite, Industrial, and Financial indexes.

NASDAQ Indexes

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Last, Chg. Lists NASDAQ Composite, Industrial, and Financial indexes.

AMEX Stock Index

Table with columns: High, Low, Close, Chg. Lists AMEX Stock Index.

Dow Jones Bond Averages

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Close, Chg. Lists Dow Jones Bond Averages.

Market Sales

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Close, Chg. Lists Market Sales for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ.

N.Y.S.E. Odd-Lot Trading

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Close, Chg. Lists N.Y.S.E. Odd-Lot Trading.

Financial

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Close, Chg. Lists Financial indices.

3-MONTH STERLING LIBOR

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Close, Chg. Lists 3-MONTH STERLING LIBOR.

3-MONTH EURO-DOLLARS (6115)

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EUROPEAN FUTURES

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Last, Chg. Lists European Futures.

Food

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Last, Chg. Lists Food futures.

COFFEE (FCO)

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Stock Indexes

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Spot Commodities

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Dividends

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Stock Sale Buys GM's Prospects

DETROIT (NYT) — General Motors Corp. got more takers than it expected for its stock offering, enabling the largest U.S. industrial company to sell 55 million shares, or 5 million more than it had planned.

The final price, \$39 a share, was only 25 cents below GM's offering price. Tuesday's offering of \$39.25 on the New York Stock Exchange. The offering price reflected confidence among investors, because demand at nearly the current market price exceeded the planned supply of shares. Late Wednesday, the stock closed at \$39.

The offering is the largest ever by an American company, topping the 1987 sale of Conrail stock, which raised \$1.46 billion. Armed with \$2 billion in cash, Chairman Robert C. Stempel will arrive at the company's annual meeting on Friday with renewed confidence, but industry experts say the auto giant still faces many challenges. GM is expected to use the money to strengthen its balance sheet and to help it develop new cars and upgrade its plants.

BONY Buying Barclays of New York

NEW YORK (NYT) — In a move to strengthen its presence in New York's suburbs, Bank of New York Co. said Wednesday it had signed a letter of intent to acquire Barclays Bank of New York.

The agreement would add 64 branches to Bank of New York's existing network of 223 branches in the New York metropolitan region. The deal, the terms of which were not disclosed, would also add \$2.2 billion in net assets to Bank of New York, which has assets of \$40.1 billion.

The bank also said it intended to file this week a proposed offering of 8 million shares of common stock. Barclays Bank PLC will continue to operate in New York for its large corporate and investment business, but the acquisition of Barclays Bank of New York will mark the end of Barclays' retail operation in the United States.

If the transaction is finalized, it would continue Bank of New York's local-market acquisitions of the late 1980s of Long Island Trust Co. and Irving Bank Corp. Carol Regan, an analyst at C.J. Lawrence, Morgan Grand Inc., applauded the strategic move, "assuming it was priced appropriately," she said. "It's the kind of move you would like to see in market consolidation."

Halliburton Seeks Overseas Activity

DALLAS (UPI) — Halliburton Co., shifting its focus overseas because of the sharp decline in U.S. oil and gas drilling, said Wednesday it had set up an office of the chairman to pursue new global opportunities.

The diversified energy-service and engineering company named W. Bernard Pieper, 59, president and chief executive officer of Halliburton's Brown & Root subsidiary, to serve in the new office, along with Halliburton's president, Dale P. Jones. Both will report to Thomas H. Cruikshank, Halliburton's chairman chief executive. Mr. Pieper has been the new title of vice chairman of Halliburton.

American Airlines May Lighten Load

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — American Airlines, seeking ways to reverse recent losses, told shareholders Wednesday it was considering abandoning money-losing markets.

Robert L. Crandall, chairman of AMR Corp., the airline's parent, refused to outline where American might scale back, although

U.S. / AT THE CLOSE

Buoys GM's Prospects - General Motors Corp. got more than...

ing Barclays of New York - In a move to strengthen its presence...

a Seeks Overseas Activity - Halliburton Co. shifting its focus overseas...

Airlines May Lighten Load - American Airlines, seeking to...

to Shut Down 8 Stores - H. H. Macy & Co. said on Wednesday...

Table with 4 columns: Symbol, Price, Change, Volume. Includes various stock indices and individual stocks.

Table with 4 columns: Symbol, Price, Change, Volume. Focuses on industrial stocks.

Table with 4 columns: Symbol, Price, Change, Volume. Focuses on stock indices.

Table with 4 columns: Symbol, Price, Change, Volume. Focuses on commodity indices.

Table with 4 columns: Symbol, Price, Change, Volume. Focuses on market guide.

Supporting Roles in Kazakh Oil Deal

By Thomas W. Lippman, Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The newly signed oil deal between Chevron Corp. and Kazakhstan...

with technical and financial advice. Apparently at Mr. Deuss's urging, Sultan Qaboos...

Chevron and Kazakhstan broke an impasse only after a sultanate, an oil trader, an investment-banking house and a law firm intervened.

Deuss, said Monday that "Oman has worked with the Kazakh government to see how they could facilitate discussions with the parties..."

The agreement calls for Chevron and Kazakhstan to be equal partners in developing the Tengiz oil field...

Chevron, the world's fifth-largest oil company, with about \$40 billion in annual revenue...

When Tengiz and a smaller nearby field included in the deal reach full production at the end of this decade...

There appears to be no question that Tengiz and nearby fields contain large pools of oil...

Russian Oil Tax Threatens U.S. Firm's Plans

Bloomberg Business News

HOUSTON — A \$6 per barrel Russian export-oil tax is threatening three projects Global Natural Resources Inc. wants to pursue...

al's treasurer. Prudential would create the shares by converting Series A preferred stock.

an autonomous area west of the Ural Mountains on the Volga River.

The projects would probably prove unprofitable unless the Houston energy company wins at least partial exemption from the tax...

Karen Howell, a Prudential spokeswoman, confirmed that Global is registering Prudential's shares but refused to say when the insurance concern would sell its stake.

How the tax will affect Global's vapor-recovery project, which is in operation, is unclear.

Bass Boosts Profit 21% As Cost Cuts Pay Off

Reuters

LONDON — Bass PLC, the world's largest hotel operator and Britain's biggest brewer...

The company owns the Holiday Inn chain and its beer brands include Bass ale and Tennent's.

The company boosted its dividend by 6 percent to 5.25 pence per share...

Analysis said the result was reassuring after Bass's struggles in 1991 to meet new British beer market rules...

Operating profit at Holiday Inn, hit last year by the impact of the Gulf War on travel, rose 27 percent to \$54 million...

Proceeds from Bass's £558 million rights issue in March 1991 helped reduce the company's interest costs...

In Britain, Bass successfully completed the biggest part of its pub sales program required to meet government rules...

Analysis said the result was reassuring after Bass's struggles in 1991 to meet new British beer market rules...

Investor's Europe

Table with 3 columns: Exchange, Index, Wednesday Close, % Change. Lists various European stock indices and their performance.

Very briefly:

- Commercial Union PLC, the British insurer, posted a loss of £19.2 million for the first quarter... Deutsche Pfandbrief- & Hypothekbank AG posted first-quarter group operating profit of \$6.2 million... The EC Commission plans to change stock-market listing rules...

Gold Prices Expected To Stay Low, Steady

By Jonathan Furber, New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Thousands of investors avoided gold last year, as buying of the metal as a secure investment declined sharply in Europe and North America.

Don't worry about the Russians, though. Their gold selling spooked the market for several years, but as a menace, they are receding.

These are some of the main conclusions from the latest survey of the gold market by Gold Fields Minerals Services Inc. of London...

The report does not forecast what gold might do from here. But the balance of factors discussed in the report — slowing production, stifling production costs that exceed selling prices for many mines...

Germany Faces Slow 2d Quarter Growth

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BERLIN — The recent wave of massive strikes and lower factory orders are likely to limit growth in Germany's real gross domestic product in the second quarter...

would show a rise from year-ago levels for the first time since unification in 1990, though a thorough improvement in economic development was not yet in sight...

COINS: British Dealer Sues Japan Over Accusation

(Continued from first finance page)

purchase all that gold, perhaps \$40 million worth, and then have had the expertise to refine and mint it?

because the case is still under investigation, they cannot speculate on who minted what they insist are counterfeit.

The sudden flow of coins into Japan from Europe stopped in early 1990, when the government said it had discovered they were forgeries.

Mr. Davies has theorized that the suspect coins came from the government's unsold lot of nearly 1 million coins.

Why did the Bank of Japan accept so many thousands of the coins before spotting that they were fakes? And if the coins are counterfeit, who could have afforded to

Mr. Davies is clearly relishing a showdown with the Japanese authorities and has his own theory. He has commissioned three reports by one of Europe's top anti-counterfeit experts...

Mr. Davies has theorized that the suspect coins came from the government's unsold lot of nearly 1 million coins.

Mr. Davies speculated that the government, either directly or through an intermediary, had decided to use the coins as part of a barter agreement with an oil-rich Middle Eastern country.

Government officials say that

Advertisement for Ferrier Lullin & Cie SA, Bank established in 1795 - Geneva. Two Centuries of Private Banking. Includes a table of key data and contact information for various branches.

NYSE

Wednesday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide price up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trade elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

(Continued)

Table with 4 columns: Symbol, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various NYSE stocks.

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# Westpac Tumbles to a Loss

## As Bad Debts Bite, Bank Plans a Stock Sale

**SYDNEY**—Australia's largest bank, Westpac Banking Corp., announced Wednesday a heavy half-year loss, mainly because of bad debts, and a rights issue to bolster its scarred balance sheet.

The loss came to 1.67 billion Australian dollars (\$1.27 billion) for the six months ended March 31, the highest interim loss in the bank's history and a sharp reversal from the 218.8 million dollar profit recorded in the like period a year earlier.

The deterioration was due mainly to a 2.65 billion dollar charge for bad debts and provisions, mainly on property-related loans, more than four times higher than a year earlier, the bank said. The total charge for bad and doubtful debts in the previous six months was 539.9 million dollars, while in the first half a year earlier it was 57.8 million dollars.

The bank also announced it would raise 1.2 billion dollars through a rights issue of new stock on a three-for-10 basis, priced at 3.00 dollars a share. The issue, which had been widely expected by the market, was at a deep discount to Westpac's Wednesday closing price of 3.89 dollars, down five cents from Tuesday's close.

Westpac's managing director, Frank Conroy, said the bank's underlying performance was sound. "We expect the group to be profitable in the second half," he said, "and do not foresee the need for provisioning of this magnitude again."

The bank's total operating income for the half year was 2.19 billion dollars, down slightly from 2.20 billion dollars in the previous six months. Westpac had made extra loan provisions after a

# Falling Inflation Fuels Bond Rally

**SYDNEY**—Australia is recording its lowest inflation levels in two decades, prompting analysts to predict that government bonds will rally well into the month of June.

After 20 years of annual inflation at roughly 8 percent, price growth has subsided to less than one-third that level, driving bond yields to 13-year lows. Economists say it will keep falling.

Demand for Australian government bonds is strong enough to support the rally, even though the government will increase supply by selling more bonds to cover a widening budget deficit, they said. Much of the demand is coming from abroad.

Foreign investors are providing a steady stream of buy orders for Australian bonds because low inflation means the bonds' real yield—their yield minus inflation—is one of the highest in the world. That provides more than an adequate check to attract sufficient overseas investment to support the rally, even though supply is increasing, said Stephen Roberts, chief economist at SBC Dominguez Bower Ltd.

The Reserve Bank, Australia's central bank, said its broad measure of core inflation for the year ended March 31 was 2.4 percent. Subtract that from the 9.10 percent yield on the benchmark government bond of the close Wednesday, and the bond's real return is 6.67 percent.

That compares with a real return of 3.13 percent offered by the benchmark Japanese government bond as of the close of trading in Tokyo. Japanese investment in Australian government bonds has helped drive Australian yields lower, traders said.

Bonds closed mixed in Sydney, after rallying Tuesday on the central bank's announcement that core inflation in the year ended March 31 was 2.4 percent. Yield on the benchmark 10-year bond rose 3 basis points, to 9.10 percent.

# Strong Yen, Sega's Earnings Surge

## Competition Despite U.S. Settlement Hurt Honda

**Blomberg Business News**

**TOKYO**—Sega Enterprises Ltd., the video-game maker that shocked investors last week by paying \$43 million to settle a patent dispute, reported a more pleasant surprise for its shareholders on Wednesday: its profit for the latest financial year was up 55 percent despite the payment.

Sega's stock price fell 38 percent last week after the company agreed to pay patent fee to Jan. R. C. C. Co., a U.S. inventor. Mr. C. C. Co. alleged Sega infringed on a low-frequency sound signal and color-image transmitter he claimed to have created.

Sega said it recorded the loss on its 1991 accounts, which cut into its net profit for the year. But after-tax profit still shot up 55 percent, to 14 billion yen (\$108.5 million). Although the figure was 8 percent below Sega's most recent forecast, analysts were expecting the toll on earnings to be heavier.

"This is good news. Now Sega can say the settlement is all in the past," said Makio Inui, an analyst at County NatWest Securities.

Sega's stock was unchanged Wednesday, at 10,100 yen a share.

**Honda** predicted a 0.1 percent growth in profit for the current financial year and a 0.3 percent rise in sales. Analysts said the strong yen, a weak domestic market and high manufacturing costs would once again work against the company.

Honda said it was planning to cut costs by 25 billion yen in the current year, to offset pressures from the yen and higher wage costs.

Last year, the higher yen added 35 billion yen to Honda's costs.

The Japanese car market is unlikely to improve substantially this year, the automaker said. "Demand will probably be about the same as last year or possibly lower," a senior Honda official said.

But he added that Honda expected to recover slightly this year, which he said was good news for sales.

Honda sold more cars in North America than in Japan last year, making it more dependent on the U.S. market than its rivals.

### Investor's Asia

Exchange	Index	Wednesday Close	Pre. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	5,753.76	5,842.24	+1.98
Singapore	Straits Times	1,472.87	1,453.80	-0.21
Sydney	All Ordinaries	1,682.00	1,656.33	-0.94
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	18,674.93	18,754.11	-0.42
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	594.09	595.81	-0.54
Bangkok	SET	677.57	667.64	+1.43
Seoul	Composite Stock	579.91	587.97	-1.37
Taipei	Weighted Price	4,560.00	4,500.82	-1.31
Manila	Composite	1,358.20	1,338.95	-1.44
Jakarta	Stock Index	294.23	292.47	-0.60
New Zealand	NZSE-40	1,547.43	1,552.89	-0.34
Bombay	National Index	1,548.85	1,547.15	-0.11

Sources: Reuters, AFP

# Yamaha Posts 38% Drop

## In Profit, Predicts Worse

**Blomberg Business News**

**TOKYO**—Yamaha Corp. said its profit fell 38 percent in the year ended March 31 and predicted an even bigger drop in the current year.

Yamaha, the world's largest maker of musical instruments, attributed last year's decline to lower financial income, a write-down of marketable securities and losses on the liquidation of a subsidiary. It said slow sales in Japan and foreign markets meant its profit would likely fall 48 percent in the year ending in March 1993.

Last year, current profit totaled 6.75 billion yen (\$52 million), down from 10.82 billion yen a year earlier, on sales of 383.75 billion yen, little changed. This year, profit is likely to fall to 3.5 billion yen on sales of 345 billion yen, the company said.

Net profit for last year was 2.83 billion yen, down 29 percent from 4.01 billion yen, and is expected to total 1.50 billion yen this year, a 47 percent decline.

In March, Yamaha cut the salaries of 20 directors by 5 percent to 20 percent to underscore the responsibility of top management for the company's poor performance, Japanese media reports said.

In an effort to streamline operations, Yamaha said last autumn that it would allow 74 employees, or 6 percent of its staff, to take early retirement.

### Very briefly:

- Taiwan's Economics Ministry said export orders for April jumped 14.9 percent from April 1991, to a record \$7.2 billion, breaking the previous peak of \$6.8 billion set in March.
- Japan's parliament approved a bill to allow foreigners to own shares in the nation's giant domestic telecommunications firm, Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corp.
- Korea Petroleum Development Corp. has signed a 25-year production-sharing contract with Vietnam's national oil company Petro-Viet under which it will take half of the output of an offshore area in southeast Vietnam estimated to contain 620 million barrels of crude.
- Takeda Chemical Industries Ltd. said it and six other Japanese pharmaceutical producers may form a joint-venture company in Saudi Arabia with local interests to sell pharmaceuticals.

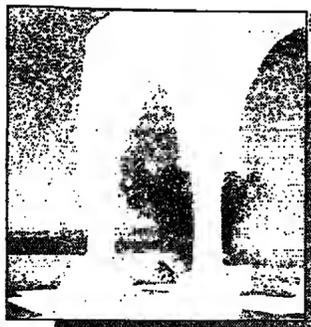
### Japan Firms Curtail Thai Operations

**TOKYO**—Toyota Motor Corp. suspended operations at its Thai joint venture on Wednesday following clashes between military and anti-government protesters, a spokesman for Japan's top automaker said.

Toyota's 59.6 percent-owned Toyota Motor Thailand Co. will review its position Thursday, "depending on what the Thai government suggests," he said.

Nissan Motor Co. said it would suspend night shifts at two plants of its 25 percent-owned Siam Nissan Automobile Co., a spokesman said. The Siamtron Co. and Marubeni Corp. trading companies said they temporarily closed their Bangkok offices because of the unrest.

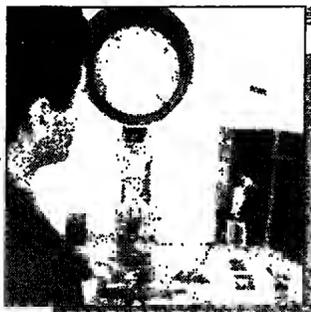
ADVERTISMENT INTERNATIONAL FUNDS		May 20, 1992	
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Greece is the best travel value in Western Europe.



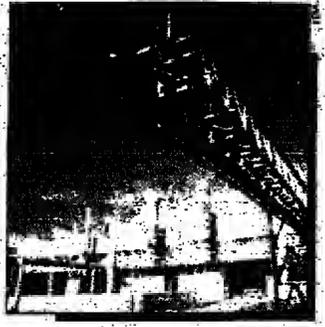
Industrial and technical efforts are linked to infrastructure expansion.



This advertising section was produced in its entirety by the supplements division of the International Herald Tribune's advertising department. • John Rigos has covered Greece for many years as a foreign correspondent. • Pat Hamilton is an Athens-based free-lance writer.

# GREECE

ADAPTING TO THE NEW EUROPE



## Economic Policy Geared to EC Integration

Greece, with a government debt of around 185 percent of GDP, faces considerable economic challenges in the coming decade. It has promised the EC to reduce borrowing from 17 percent to 1.5 percent of GDP annually, and aims to reduce its engorged public sector by 10 percent in three years.

According to Dora Bakoyanni, member of Greece's parliament and daughter of Constantine Mitsotakis, the country's current prime minister, "The problem with [Greece] is that we lost two major economic recovery opportunities. In the late 1940s, when Europe was taking advantage of the Marshall Plan, we were fighting communist guerrillas. In the 1980s, the bulk of EC help and loans for the restructuring of our economy was wasted in consumer spending." The consensus even among politi-

### Increasing exports to the EC is a major goal

cal rivals that Greece should belong to the European Community is no doubt helping the government in its efforts to streamline the economy, but, as Mrs. Bakoyanni points out, the job is not easy. "Our main difficulties today in meeting the requirements of Maastricht stem from our huge public deficit. It should be reduced. We should curb inflation. Reduce employment in the public sector. And all that in a world plagued by recession," she says.

Greece must also cope with a conflict with Turkey over rights in the Aegean; the occupation of Northern Cyprus by Turkish troops; and the dissolution of Yugoslavia, which created a new independent state along Greece's northern borders that is calling itself the Republic of Macedonia, angering most Greeks. "Such a state, by usurping the name of Macedonia, would undermine the area and the stability of Europe," says Vassilis Maghinias, Greece's secretary-general of press and information services. Macedonia, Epirus and Thrace, provinces in northern Greece that make up around 40 percent of the country's total area but have a combined population barely that of Athens, are currently the focus of a major government development plan. Tinos Stravropoulos of the Hellenic Industrial Development Bank (ETBA), which is responsible for financing 75 percent of total investment in northern Greece, says that there has been a "revolutionary increase" in industry and tourism development in the area recently, adding to public concern over the Macedonia issue.

In spite of these economic and political difficulties, there are signs that economic reforms are beginning to take effect. According to Yannis Paliokrassas, Greece's finance minister, "In 1981, [Greece's] public debt was 671

billion drachmas [\$3.48 billion]. In 1990, it reached 9.4 trillion drachmas. That is, it increased fifteenfold. This, with unpaid government-guaranteed loans, brings total debts to 15 trillion drachmas." Two-thirds of government revenues are earmarked for the payment of interest and debt installments. "Recovery is beginning, however," Mr. Paliokrassas points out, adding: "Our revenue has doubled in the first two months of 1992, over that of the two first months of 1989, something without precedent."

Expenses, including interest on earlier loans, had been rising by 30 percent annually. "In 1990, we dropped this to 15 percent and in 1991 to 6.5 percent. In 1989, Greece borrowed 800 billion drachmas for consumer requirements. The 1992 budget, in contrast, contains a surplus of 200 billion drachmas for the payment of interest and debt installments," Mr. Paliokrassas says, citing the recent computerization of Greece's Internal Revenue Service and new tax laws favoring investment as measures that should help lead to economic recovery.

The minister also feels that Greek industry is becoming more competitive, and that by doubling exports to the EC, Greece could solve its balance of payments difficulties. Another hopeful sign is that EC investors have begun to get involved in various sectors of Greece's economy. Unilever has bought ELAIS, an olive-oil company, and has expanded into margarines, soaps and detergents. The Metaxa firm, producers of the world-renowned brandy, has been bought by Grand Metropolitan of Britain, the Swiss firm Suchard has bought Greece's top chocolate producer, ION, and Caltestruzzi of Italy has bought the AGET-Iraklis cement company.

Stelios Argyros, president of the Greek Industrialists Association, welcomes such takeovers. "The so-called 'de-hellenization' of industries is a joke. But we also want Greeks to have the same chances abroad," he says. Panayotis Thomadakis, president of American Computer Systems, one of the leading Greek computer firms, was among the first Greek entrepreneurs to turn to both the EC and neighboring Bulgaria for joint-venture partners. "I formed joint companies in order to expand into new fields," he says. "Now I am connected with GTE, Ameritech and Datanat in order to participate in a major project for the Hellenic Telecommunications Organization. I also joined forces with a Bulgarian firm. I exchange technology and management, which they need, with manpower, which they have." — John Rigos

## Changing Attitudes

Tzannis Tzantziakis, Greece's deputy prime minister, outlines the major challenges his country is facing.

What are the basic problems facing your country?

Our main problems include the restructuring of our economy. The Greek economy has been serving a consumer society for the past few decades, which has meant a tendency toward borrowing and a high rate of inflation, well above the EC average.

What are you doing about it?

First, privatization. But the main difficulty is changing the mentality of the people, to make them think in a different way than before. Within the next month, we will sign an agreement with two companies for the development of mobile telephones. We have also started the procedure for the construction of the new Athens international airport. It will be one of the largest airports in Europe and will enhance Greece's position as the European gateway to Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

What about the existing large number of government-run public enterprises?

Private capital will be invited to participate up to 49 percent in such public-sector organizations as the

Hellenic Telecommunications Organization (OTE), among others.

Are there other major projects to be financed?

The extension of the Athens subway; the construction of a bridge connecting the Peloponnese with Central Greece; the Thessaloniki subway; a pipeline for the supply of natural gas from Russia—all will be self-financed, some with support from special EC development programs.

Greece is the only EC country in the Balkans. How do you see your country taking advantage of this situation?

Greece is trying to help these countries establish free-market economies. Bulgaria and Romania are both in a transition period and will gradually find the right course.

What about the so-called "Republic of Macedonia"?

This was created by Tito in order to serve some of his international policy aims. It has a population of two million people of various nationalities. They do not have a common cultural identity. We are willing to help this newborn state, but under the proper conditions.

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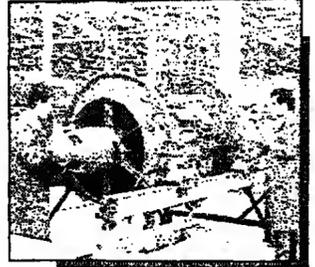
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# Streamlining of Industry Required

While Greece's public sector — from government services to state-controlled enterprises, banks and utility agencies — is experiencing problems, the country's private sector is enjoying steadily increasing profits.

While Piraiki-Patraiki, Greece's largest textile manufacturer, will probably be closed down, another state-owned company, Hellenic Aerospace Industry (HAI), seems to be on the road to recovery thanks to a reorganization of its management.



HAI's operations are newly profitable.

"We haven't had an increase in production, but a decrease in the rate of reduction," says Stelios Argyros, president of the Association of Greek Industries. He explains that private industry in Greece is increasingly gearing itself toward foreign markets. "It is as if a new mentality is being developed," he says. "While local demand for Greek industrial products has been dropping, exports have increased by 10 percent since 1990."

take over management of the company. "The contract we entered into was to begin to set up business systems that would move it toward private enterprise concepts," says Dan Lange, HAI's managing director, adding: "The idea was to manage its business and its cash in a manner in which it will not have to turn to the state for funds every time it turns around." The company has now increased production and will have a 1992 turnover of 25 billion drachmas (\$125 million) compared with 14.5 billion drachmas in 1991. In spite of such success stories, many Greek industrialists, as well as leading members of the ruling New Democracy Party, feel that the country's economic recovery cannot progress without reorganization of the immense civil-



Off the beaten track: mountain hiking.

# Year-Round Travel Being Promoted

Greek tourism, after weathering the repercussions of the Gulf War, has sailed into 1992 full steam ahead, anticipating a 10 percent to 30 percent increase in arrivals.

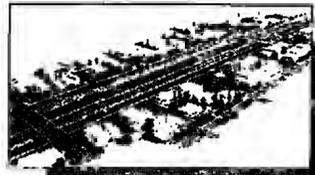
A recent EC study awarded Greece the greatest number of clean beaches in Europe, this year's U.S. State Department analysis of foreign travel costs pegs Greece as the best value in Western Europe, with estimated per diem expenses of \$67 (compared with \$134 in Italy, \$131 in Spain and \$153 in Portugal) and, thanks to a new U.S.-Greek civil aviation agreement, six U.S. carriers are expected to fly to Greece this year, adding about 90,000 airline seats into Greece from the United States.

had been brought back to fiscal health. The government has established an Industrial Recovery Organization (IRO) whose aims are "to restore [Greek] industries' health and then to sell them, thus serving both the interests of the entrepreneurs and of the workers," according to an official description. The IRO's John Kynigopoulos says that out of 35 industries that have been handed by the organization, 15 were sold (three of them to foreign investors, the rest to Greeks) and another 15 were closed down.

# \$7.5 Billion Earmarked for Infrastructure Growth

Despite its deficits and the need to pay for interest on loans accumulated since the establishment of modern Greece 170 years ago, the Greek state budget has always included a separate section, entitled the "development budget," earmarked mainly for infrastructure projects. Greece's 1992 development budget of about \$750 million is hardly enough, however, to cover "the lost time and the distance that separates us from our other European colleagues," as Tzannetakis says. Greece's deputy prime minister, says, "A complex system of infrastructure financing has been set up that takes advantage of various EC funds and programs geared to the modernization of Europe's less developed areas, and calls for self-financing of the most costly projects whereby the builder of the project, alone or with a

group of financiers, provides most or part of the funds required; the project's profits are used to pay off its debts. Mr. Tzannetakis says: "We apply this method of self-financing because the state does not have the huge capital needed for these projects, [which] are needed urgently if we are to join the European development trajectory without further delay."



The new Spata airport will open in 1996.

Another ambitious project includes the construction of a suspension bridge connecting the northwestern Peloponnese with central Greece, which will shorten the time required to go by road from Rion to Antirion from 30 minutes to five; this project will cost around \$400 million. Another major project is the construction of a new highway connecting Eleusis, the port and industrial town southwest of Athens, with the new airport at Spata. This project, together with a highway along the western ridges of

Mount Hymettus, will relieve some of the congestion suffered by motorists near the Greek capital. The most expensive infrastructure project now being undertaken by Greece is the modernization of Greek telecommunications, for which an estimated \$5 billion will be spent within the next few years. The government has picked Credit Suisse First Boston as its financial advisers for the project, which is to involve the installation of a GSM mobile-telephone system; 85 percent of Greece's territory is to be served by mobile telecommunications within 18 months of the signing of the agreement. The government, through the Hellenic Telecommunications Organization, is also replacing all telephone centers with digital technology. New facilities have already replaced part of the old equipment in the Port of Piraeus, and the port is to remain headquarters of one of the world's largest merchant marine fleets. J.R.

of the European Community has opened up the air-charter and air-taxi businesses in Greece. Olympic Airlines expects to earn more than 7 billion drachmas (\$36.3 million) this year from charters, and six other Greek businesses have already applied for charter and/or air-taxi licenses. To avoid oversaturation in the high summer season, both the National Tourist Organization and Greece's travel industry are promoting year-round tourism with government tax incentives given for investments in winter tourism and for tourist facilities in undeveloped areas. The government also is offering 25 percent financing for new hotel investments in the four- and five-star class. According to Lyssandros Tsilides, president of the Hellenic Association of Travel and Tourism, agents are offering special rates to draw the retired, older visitor to Greece. "Greece will become the Miami of the European Community, the holiday destination of Europe," he says. Pat Hamilton

Even the Yugoslav crisis, which has closed all overland traffic into Greece, has provoked some unexpected benefits for Greece. Michael Chiolman, president of the Greek Yacht Brokers Association, sees increased activity in Greek waters since the Dalmatian coast is off limits, in particular from charter companies previously based in Yugoslavia that have moved their boats to Greece. Recent government legislation to bring Greek air-traffic regulations more in line with those of the rest

# Positive Signs of the Times

- Credit Bank A.E. (Athens) has reported positive results for 1991 in various areas: earnings were up by 11 percent over 1990, with share dividends proposed by the bank's board of directors to be 27 percent above the last dividend payment level. Total assets were up by 12 percent over 1990. The bank's 1991 investments included new facilities to house an expanding branch network and software and equipment needed to implement a fully integrated information system, which began operating in March this year.
- Plant Your Roots in Greece, a non-profit organization based in the United States; aims to mobilize Greek-Americans and others with a special interest in Greece to initiate reforestation of many areas throughout the country. Working with the support of the Greek government, the organization's goal is to make Greece "an ecological model to the entire world."
- Greece and the New Europe, a conference sponsored by the International Herald Tribune and the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, is being held May 21-22 at the Hotel Athenaeum Intercontinental, Athens.

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DREAMS— From desire to reality.  
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## HELLENIC AEROSPACE INDUSTRY (HAI)

HAI is a state-owned enterprise of the Hellenic Republic, established in 1975 as a state-owned and owned company to provide support to the Greek armed forces, including maintenance of aircraft; to be in charge of overhaul, modification and manufacturing of components, and to fulfill the electronics and weapons-systems needs of the Greek Air Force and of Greek-based civilian airlines. Like almost all government-run services, HAI ran into trouble from the beginning. Faced with huge deficits, the government asked Lockheed Aircraft Service International to

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ADVERTISING SECTION

## ing Attitudes

metakis, Greece's deputy... outlines the major... country is facing.

Are there other major projects to be financed? The extension of the Athens subway; the construction of a bridge connecting the Peloponnese with Central Greece; the Thessaloniki subway; a pipeline for the supply of natural gas from Russia; all will be self-financed, some with support from special EC development programs.

Greece is the only EC country in the Balkans. How do you see your country taking advantage of this situation?

Greece is trying to help these countries establish free-market economies. Bulgaria and Romania are both in a transition period and will gradually find the right course.

What about the so-called "Republic of Macedonia"?

This was created by Tito in order to serve some of his international policy aims. It has a population of two million people of various nationalities. They do not have a common cultural identity. We are willing to help this new-born state, but under the proper conditions. J.R.

Gods

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SPORTS

Hershiser Gives Up 2, Drives In 2 For Dodgers

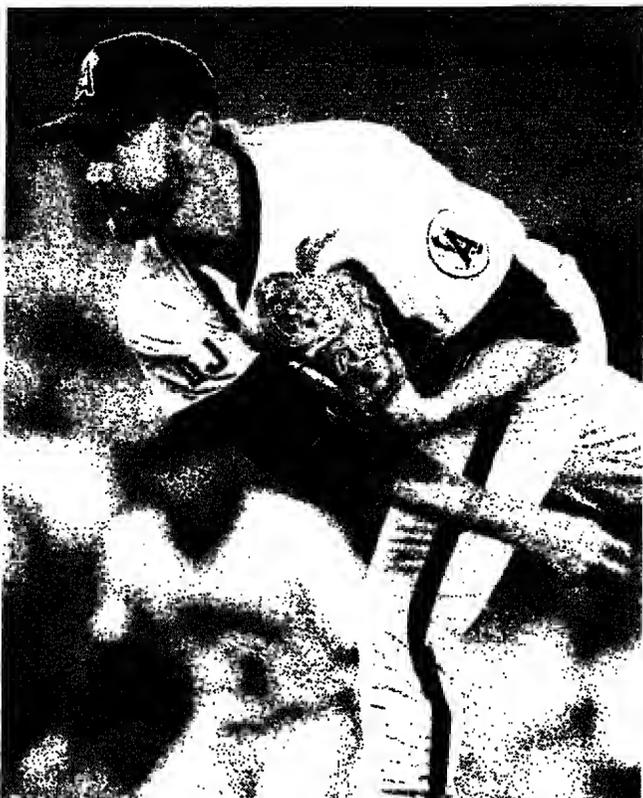
The Associated Press
The way the Los Angeles Dodgers are hitting, Orel Hershiser probably figured he would have to drive in his own runs.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Hansen and Jose Offerman with two outs, and Hershiser grounded the next pitch over the third-base bag.
The ball bounced fair in front of the bag and bounced barely foul after the bag, so it had to have gone over it, Hershiser said.

Rookie Leads Twins Past Jays

Pat Mahomes knew he had the early edge on the Toronto Blue Jays. He just decided not to give it back.
Mahomes, in only his fifth major-league start, allowed four singles over seven innings to lead the Minnesota Twins to their fourth straight victory and ninth in their last 10 games with a 7-1 triumph in Toronto.



Pitching for the first time in 21 months, Bert Blyleven, 41, said he "threw O.K." But the Angels lost.

Rookie Leads Twins Past Jays

The Associated Press
Pat Mahomes knew he had the early edge on the Toronto Blue Jays. He just decided not to give it back.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

much about me," said Mahomes, who struck out five batters in his longest career outing.
The pitcher usually has the advantage in that situation. The next time through the order, I had a lead and that allowed me to stick to my fastball.

Blazers and Bulls Easy Victors

Cavs Flat In Opener In Chicago
By Harvey Araton
New York Times Service
CHICAGO — It was something like the first beautiful day of spring after a long, blustery winter.

Blazers and Bulls Easy Victors

Cavs Flat In Opener In Chicago

By Harvey Araton
New York Times Service
CHICAGO — It was something like the first beautiful day of spring after a long, blustery winter.



Scottie Pippen of the Bulls rising above Cleveland's Larry Nance, left, and Mike Sanders to slam home a dunk for 2 of his 29 points.

Hot Porter Powers Rout Of the Jazz

The Associated Press
PORTLAND, Oregon — The crowd chanted "Terry! Terry!"
This is Clyde Drexler's team. But for this night, and for much of the playoffs, they have been the Portland Trail Blazers.

Porter made 12 of 14 field goals, including four of five 3-pointers. He was also 13 for 14 at the foul line.

Porter's previous career high was 40 points against the Golden State on March 18, 1988. His best playoff performance had been 38 points in a double-overtime game against San Antonio in 1990.

Porter, who made a club-record 6 of 8 3-pointers in Game 1, beat the third Portland player to score more than 40 points in a playoff game and the first to do it in a nonovertime game.

SCOREBOARD

Major League Standings

Table showing Major League Standings for American League and National League, including teams like Baltimore, Toronto, Boston, etc.

Tuesday's Line Scores

Table showing Tuesday's Line Scores for various MLB games, including Minnesota vs Toronto, Houston vs Philadelphia, etc.

Japanese Baseball

Table showing Japanese Baseball results, including teams like Yakult, Hiroshima, Chunichi, etc.

Stanley Cup

Table showing Stanley Cup playoff results, including Pittsburgh vs Boston, Vancouver vs Vancouver, etc.

Penguins Serve Bruins Notice: Lemieux's Back

The Associated Press
PITTSBURGH — Mario Lemieux is a likely candidate for the hockey hall of fame.
The medical hall of fame may get him first.

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE
CHICAGO — Retired Roberto Hernandez, pitcher, from Vancouver, Pacific Coast League, continued to pitch shortstop to Vancouver.

Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE
CHICAGO — Retired Mike Bernard, pitcher, from Denver, American Association, continued to pitch shortstop to Denver.

Baseball

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY
England vs. Pakistan
England, 28-4 (55 overs); Pakistan, 28-4 (of 75 overs)

Large advertisement for AT&T USADirect service, featuring the slogan 'FEELING OUT OF IT?' and 'AT&T USADirect Service can get you back to the office in seconds.'

Handwritten Arabic text: 'كلنا في الأصل' (We are all originally from here)

ART BUCHWALD

A Dogged Graduate

WASHINGTON — It's graduation time and the following scene is now being played out all over America:

"Mom and Dad, you people have been so good to me during my formative years and I have never done anything for you. I want to make it up to you."

"That's very sweet of you, son. What do you have in mind?"

"Now that I've graduated and must behave like an adult, I'd like to give you my dog Sandy."

"For keeps?"

"Yes, Mom, forever. He's yours unless I change my mind."

"But you've only had him for four months. Don't you want to keep him a little longer?"

"I do, but I have to think of the dog. He'd be much happier with you. Around me he'd be with someone who blows in from Wisconsin one day and out to Katmandu the next. In your house, he'd have a safe harbor."

"But, son, we already have a dog."



Buchwald

Spike Lee Gets Funding for Film

NEW YORK — Spike Lee has announced that a number of prominent blacks have donated an undisclosed amount of money to help complete work on his forthcoming film, "Malcolm X."

He said the donors were Bill Cosby, Oprah Winfrey, Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson, Prince, Janet Jackson and Peggy Cooper Cafritz, the founder of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts.

Lee said he had been "forced" to seek outside help to finish the movie after the Completion Bond Co., which assumed financial control in January, refused to approve any more expenditures. At the time costs on the film, initially budgeted at \$28 million, had climbed to nearly \$33 million. Lee says final costs for the movie may run above \$40 million.

We aren't looking for a new friend."

"Ordinarily you have a right to feel that way, but Sandy is different. He's young and frisky, and in a few months he will be housebroken and you can let him have the run of the place. Sandy can't do much damage as long as you show him who's boss."

"Son, I'm sure that you have thought this through, but has it ever occurred to you that if we were in the market for another dog we know where to get one?"

"That's what the guys at school said you would say, Dad. I'm not only giving you my dog, I'm also giving you my dish. Sandy would be really upset if I gave him no expense whatsoever. He'll have no one to turn to when he's living with his master once I do. Please don't look a gift dog in the mouth."

"Why did you get Sandy if you had no intention of keeping him?"

"Because I love animals and I had every intention of keeping him until he ate the drapes in my girl's apartment."

"She must have been upset."

"She said something very childish such as either Sandy goes, or I go. But that's not why I am giving you the dog. I'm presenting him to you because I believe that Sandy will help you and Mom — he'll give you a reason to talk to each other."

"We get along fine now."

"Dogs can work miracles for people when it comes to communicating. I learned that in Psych 204."

"Would you be offended if we didn't keep the dog?"

"Why should I be offended? Maybe some dog dealer will find him and make him his pet."

"If we don't take him, are you just going to kick him out in the street?"

"It isn't my decision, it's yours. If you don't want him, I'll have to do something so that he doesn't hate you."

"All right, we'll keep the dog, but you take him back as soon as you break up with your girl."

"Gloria, be. I'm blessed with the best mother and father in the whole world. If you hadn't raised me to be a mature, responsible person, I would never have had the guts to adopt the puppy in the first place."

New Life for Babelsberg Studio

By Stephen Kinzer

New York Times Service

STUTTGART — The giant Babelsberg studio in Potsdam, where some of the world's most memorable films were made, has been sold to a French conglomerate that hopes to turn it into one of the world's largest and most modern film, television and radio production centers.

The buyer, Compagnie Generale des Eaux, known as CGE, is the largest film producer in France but is known principally as a real estate developer.

According to an agreement reached this week, the company will take over a sprawling lot in the Berlin suburb with more than 100 buildings, enormous amounts of movie paraphernalia, including 650,000 costumes and 2,000 wigs, and a large, experienced staff. On the cavernous sound stages, performers like Greta Garbo, Marlene Dietrich and Peter Lorre made the movies that brought them worldwide fame, coached by directors like Fritz Lang and Josef von Sternberg.

Officials of the French company say they will invest more than \$600 million in the decaying studio. They plan to turn it into a kind of European Hollywood that will produce not only feature films, but also documentaries, animated films, music videos, advertisements and radio and television programs.

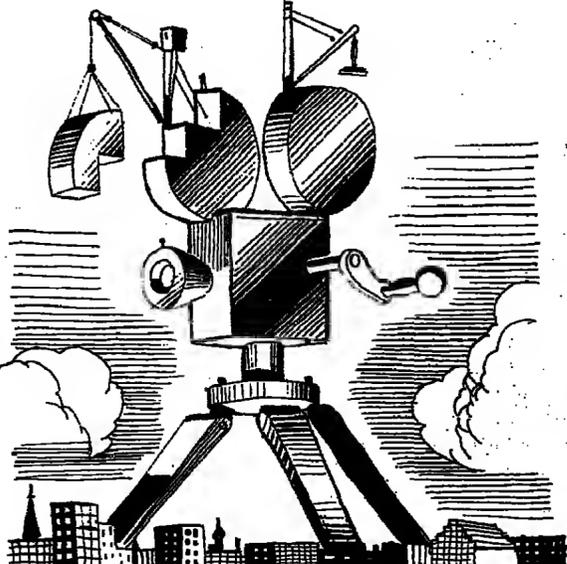
The new owners also plan to build a film school, boarding houses for actors and technicians, and a hotel and restaurant complex on the 10,600-acre (4,300-hectare) site, which is less than half an hour's drive from downtown Berlin.

The film director Volker Schlöndorff was an active supporter of the CGE bid and is expected to be named to help supervise the studio's renovation. Another prominent German director, Wim Wenders, said he was "very, very happy" about the sale.

The Babelsberg studio opened in 1912, at the dawn of the film era. Among the classics produced there in its first two decades were "The Blue Angel," "Metropolis" and "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari."

During the Nazi era, the studio churned out scores of propaganda films. After World War II, when Potsdam became part of the Soviet occupation zone and later part of East Germany, it continued to produce propaganda, this time glorifying communism rather than Nazism.

But under communism, the studio was also the scene of artistic conflict between unorthodox directors and East Germany's hard-line leaders. For a time, the East German government encouraged directors to follow their creative instincts, but when the directors began to produce films critical of the government they were muzzled. Some of their films sat on shelves for years and were released



David Sizer

only as communism began to crumble in the late 1980s.

After German unification in 1990, Babelsberg and its parent company, DEFA, became the property of the Treuhändelamt, a government agency created to sell thousands of companies that had been owned by the East German state.

The Treuhändelamt, as it is known, received dozens of bids. It slowly reduced the field and announced its choice of CGE on Tuesday in Berlin. The purchase price was not disclosed.

"This is not a normal development project," said Eberhard Sinnecker, the Treuhändelamt official who directed the long negotiations with the French company and other bidders. "The studio has not only a unique history, but also an ideal location."

"We have found enormous interest in this project all across Europe," Sinnecker said. "Germans tell us that a revitalized Babelsberg could be the catalyst to pull German film out of its provincialism, and people in other countries say they would love to work at a studio where everything they need is ready for them."

"The fact that this place happens to be

Babelsberg is part of the attraction. Film people think there's some magic in the air over there."

In the last two years, the Treuhändelamt has spent several million dollars to keep the studio alive while a buyer was being sought. Films and television shows are still being made there. Among the features now in production is a spy thriller directed by John Schlesinger and starring Isabella Rossellini and Anthony Hopkins.

The studio's managers have also made some money by inviting the public in for tours, the way some Hollywood studios do. The tours have proved popular, with busloads of students and adults visiting old sets, including a pirate town, a turn-of-the-century Berlin boulevard and a Scandinavian farm village built for the film "Pelle the Conqueror."

But the studio remains much quieter than it was a few years ago. Of the 2,300 people who worked there while the Communists were in power, only about 700 remain. The new owners have guaranteed the jobs of all current employees and say they will build the staff up to 2,500 by the year 2000, said Marianne Mielke, a spokeswoman for the studio.

PEOPLE

Rock to the Rescue

The rock band Aerosmith, saying that it is angered by the erosion of "artistic and personal freedom," is giving \$10,000 to a Massachusetts Institute of Technology museum to replace a grant denied by the National Endowment for the Arts. The "donation will help pay for 'Corporal Politics,' an MIT exhibition scheduled to open in December. "This was absolutely out of the blue," said the MIT museum curator Helaine Posner. The exhibition will show works that include nudity and use images of body parts to explore social alienation.

Would you spend your hard-earned cash on a magazine called Ben & Bill's? Bill Regardie, the owner of financially troubled Regardie's magazine, thinks you would. That's why he recently asked Benjamin Bradlee, the former executive editor of The Washington Post, to take over the magazine. All he had to do was put up a million bucks. Bradlee failed to bite, but admitted "You've got chutzpah." Regardie said. Asked if he was still weighing the offer, Bradlee, now a vice president of The Washington Post Co., said jokingly: "How about just Ben's?"

Celebrities and fashion designers joined American Indians at a benefit party Monday night at New York's Amazon Village nightclub to raise money for the rain forest. The Don't Bungle the Jungle II party raised about \$150,000 for the Companion of Arts and Nature, a foundation established to work with native peoples. Chet Oken Lyons of the Onondaga nation led a sundown ritual that was followed by a showdown dinner for 600 guests who included John F. Kennedy Jr., the rock singer Deborah Harry, the model Elle Macpherson, Calvin Klein, Barry Diller, Diane von Furstenberg and Jam Weener.

Laurel Fortney says writing the best bad fiction is not hard work. And she should know. On Tuesday, she was awarded the annual Bulwer-Lytton Fiction contest in San Jose, California, for the worst opening line of an imaginary novel. Her line: "As the newest Lady Tumpot descended into the kitchen, she wringed only in her, celerity."

green dressing gown, her strappy bosom rising and falling like a temperamental soufflé; her hair matted, pinned in disarray, the some-what wisped to the scullery boy. "I don't know what to make of her."

Larry Fortensky, the husband of Elizabeth Taylor, pleaded no contest to 1987 drunk driving charges and was placed on three years' probation. A judge in Corona, California, also ordered him to enroll in an 18-month alcohol rehabilitation program and to pay a fine of about \$1,200. Taylor and Fortensky met four years ago while both were undergoing substance abuse treatment at the Betty Ford Center.

The approach of Johnny Carson's final "Tonight Show" on Friday has people lining up in Burbank, California, for tickets. "There's an enormous anticipation that somehow their life is going to be different after Friday," said an NBC spokesman. Jay Leno takes over on Monday.

Bill Cosby joked to University of Maryland graduates that they should sue their alma mater because it has left them unprepared for the mental jobs they are likely to get upon graduation. "There are no courses in value parking, witnessing and grinding coffee," he said at the school's commencement. The comedian was awarded an honorary doctorate.

Jools Holland, a British producer, is working with the three surviving members of the Beatles, Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr and George Harrison, as well as John Lennon's widow, Yoko Ono, to make a seven-part television series telling the story of the group. The first of the 90-minute films, to be called "The Long and Winding Road," would be ready for screening next year and the others would follow at three-month intervals.

The 1991 Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development had been awarded posthumously to her son, the former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi. It was announced in New Delhi on Wednesday, the eve of the first anniversary of Rajiv's assassination.

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